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Jul/Aug

# The Paper

Volume 5, Issue 2 • July/Aug 1998

Monterey County's Gay Newspaper • [www.mbay.net/~wes/monterey](http://www.mbay.net/~wes/monterey)

## Pride Revisited



Photo by Taro

## Women's Weekend Returns to Monterey

### Annual Labor Day Fest Draws Thousands



Photo by Taro



Photo by Taro

**T**he 3rd Annual Club Skirts Women's Weekend is expected to once again draw thousands of women from across the country for mega-pool parties, golf tournaments, comedy shows, and dance parties over the Labor Day weekend.

Referred to by some as "an innocent variant" of a circuit party, the Women's Weekend brings with it performers that the Central Coast wouldn't normally host, such as Jill Sobule ("I Kissed a Girl") and dance diva Tia ("Slip and Slide").

"We're expecting the biggest weekend yet," said event producer Mariah Hanson. "The women love the weekend and the Monterey Bay Area. This year we are getting more calls from all over the country, so we are expecting a lot of out of state women as well as the California girls!"

Comediennes Karen Ripley from California, Michele Balan from New York, and headliner Karen Williams from Ohio perform on Friday. DJ Paige Hodel spins at "Marooned!," the huge dance party on Saturday night featuring state-of-the-art light and sound system.

"I think the locals really like the weekend," said Hanson. "We received nothing but glowing reports. They've given us a great welcome both years and we appreciate it."

For information call 888/5-SKIRTS.

The Labor Day Women's Weekend draws thousands of lesbians to the Monterey Hyatt Regency.



## Publisher's Column



## Pride™

With the larger pride celebrations becoming more commercial, "gay" is increasingly defined by people with MBAs in marketing rather than gay activists and community leaders. While our community may be recognized as a legitimate part of American society (read: one with purchasing power) it is also being shaped by the same people who try to convince us that we should smell like Michael Jordan.

While this publication depends on advertisers, I try to keep the content wanne-be free. One of the most liberating aspects of being gay is the freedom to choose what the adjective means to you in your life. There's little difference between my life during my "pre-gay" days in college and my life now: I still have horrible fashion sense, still don't belong to a gym, and still generally show up to events on time. Not very gay™. And, even though I'm an assimilationist by nature, I like it like that.

Many among us toss away inordinate amounts of time and credit trying to conform to synthetic or dated standards of dress, behavior, and outlook. It poses a threat to the continuing maturation of gay culture since gay youth and the newly out—the two groups most apt to look to the media for role models—need to be reminded that there is no right way to be gay, lest they slip into the same patterns of self-loathing and destructive behavior that they escaped by embracing their sexuality.

My boss at the time was less forgiving. She had been dropping boulder-size hints for weeks prior that she was tiring of my charade.

## Out of the Cubicle

When I killed off my last imaginary girlfriend back in 1991 and decided I was queer, most of my coworkers had reached the same conclusion long before me. Still, they patiently waited for me to make the big announcement.

My boss at the time was less forgiving. She had been dropping boulder-size hints for weeks prior that she was tiring of my charade: she started mentioning things like the brief affair she had with a woman in college and the many gay friends she made working in television. Despite all of this, it took more than six months for me to come out at work...only to find that people could care less.

As we begin forming a plan to introduce domestic partnerships benefits to county and city employees, *The Paper* will look into the pros and cons of coming out at work, specifically whether 30 years of gay pride activism has made it any easier for employees in traditionally conservative jobs to be open about who they are.

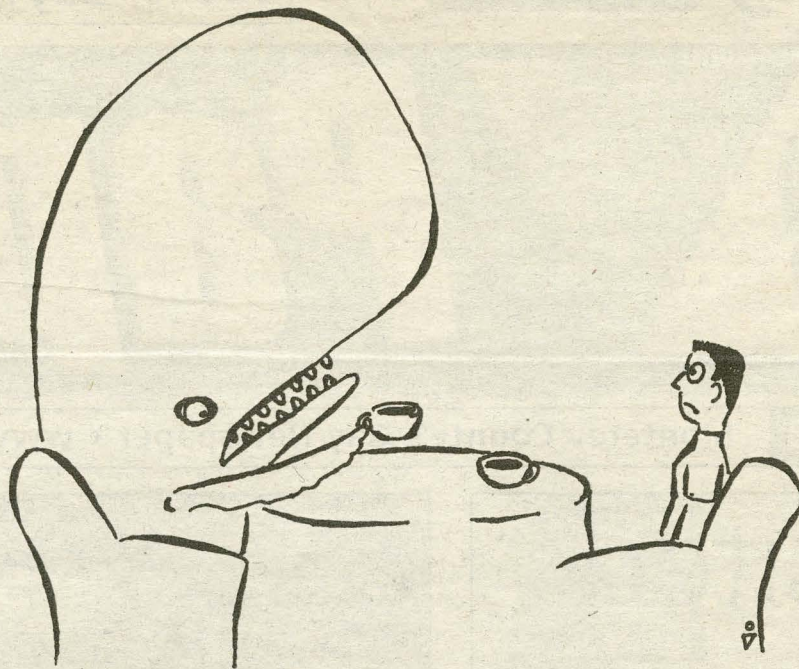
## Pride Parade Pariah

Even though I choose to skip the pride parades and hoopla of June, I still recall the thrill of marching for the first time. It was with a gay Asian group in L.A., and the support I felt from the crowd lining the route was almost as palpable as the muscled brown arm of the man walking beside me.

No matter how jaded you may think yourself, if you haven't marched in a pride parade, I highly recommend it. It is at once humbling and liberating. It is also important to remind the rest of the community that we are not just one heterogeneous rank after another of muscled circuit boys, or that gay life does not end at San Francisco's city limit.

Wes Kashiwagi, Publisher

## Standard Deviation



WELL, I DID SAY "SWIMMER'S BUILD" DIDN'T I?

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## Letters

## A Plea for Help

Greetings brothers and sisters of Monterey County. I come to you with an urgent plea and beg you give me just a few moments of precious time.

My name is Dave Erskine and many of you know me as the owner of Dave's Cycle Shop, in beautiful downtown Seaside. For almost 24 years I worked long hours to help my fellow motorcycle riders achieve the best prices and service.

Although it wasn't easy, I felt it was my duty and I did it happily, and with little remuneration other than a heart-felt thanks from my many loyal customers, over 3,000 regulars and 1,000's of "passer-bys" in all.

But, as many of you know, the retail store came to a tragic end on December 10th, 1997 when a fire burned through the structure and destroyed over \$114,000 in parts.

As if that weren't enough, the landlady, after promising that we would be back in operation by June, pulled some legal maneuvers while I was out of town and managed to have me evicted, even though she was being paid the rent and had sworn that she wanted us back after the store was remodeled. To add insult to injury, she later gave me what turned out to be a 36-hour notice to remove all the undamaged parts, and then SCRAPPED all of the motorcycles out back and remaining inventory within, dragging it to the Marina dump and disposing of it all, after I feverishly attempted to remove as much as I could in the brief time allotted. A loss of about \$30,000.

So, with the loss of parts from the fire and landlady I was looking at \$144,000 down the drain and a loss of retail revenues for the last 7 months of about \$100,000, making a total of

\$244,000. AND THEN, who should step in but the District Attorney! He had just received funding from the federal government to prosecute insurance fraud cases so without even a care, and I dare say not even a thought on his part, he said that he was thinking of filing fraud charges against me. It didn't matter that I was only insured for \$25,000 in inventory and it didn't matter that I HAD NOT EVEN FILED A CLAIM AS YET, it just mattered that he get his federal grant money so through the Seaside Police "grapevine" (an officer who shall remain nameless) I learned that a warrant had been issued but then recalled...it seems that the evidence was too sparse...or the paperwork incomplete...but he said that it would be "just a matter of time" before the DA would get it together...AND THIS IS WHY I NEED YOUR HELP!

I talked with Mel Grimes Jr., attorney extraordinaire in my opinion, and asked if he would take the case once it was officially filed. "Of course," said Mel, "but it will probably cost you about \$25,000 plus about \$5,000 for an investigator and you can count on anywhere from \$25,000 to \$60,000 for bail. I have been able to borrow \$5,000 of this so far but this is where YOU, my loyal customers, friends, and supporters come in.

With all of the legal fees combined, I expect that if everyone of my customers donated \$20-\$30 that I will be able to fight this case, and given the evidence, easily win it. I have never asked for help, money, or handouts from anyone in my life so this is an especially difficult thing to do, but I have come to realize that without everyone's help I will surely NOT be able to defend myself.

But I am not really expecting something for nothing. I plan to keep track of everyone who makes a donation and will be

happy to offer those people a discount of like amount on motorcycle parts and accessories orders placed through my website at, [www.davescycleworld.com](http://www.davescycleworld.com) The e-mail address is [mtrcycle@ix.net](mailto:mtrcycle@ix.net) or my personal e-mail address: [LordXanth@aol.com](mailto:LordXanth@aol.com). For those able to e-mail I would appreciate any letters of recommendation that you can offer, so that the courts will not think me a skurv and a rogue, and for my own benefit you may even e-mail gripes and complaints as I'm always interested on how to improve service.

Next, I would appreciate any and all donations. \$20-30 would be great, and since I expect that one or two people may send a few dollars less, if you can afford more I will be all the more appreciative. (Total expenses with bail are expected to reach between \$80,000 to 100,000). On your future orders I will be able to return this at the rate of a \$20 discount for each \$100 in purchases.

You can send donations and letters of support and recommendation to: Dave's Legal Fund aka Save the Dave 1336 Noche Buena Street Seaside, CA 93955

I really do appreciate your reading this letter and hope that the cause appeals to you, I know it is ESPECIALLY dear to my heart, and that you will see it in your heart to help me out. It will make me feel especially good and will assure me that those 24 years were not served in vain.

A hearty thanks,  
—Dave Erskine

*The Paper provides this space for commentary from the gay community. Views expressed here do not necessarily reflect the viewpoint of The Paper or its staff. The Paper welcomes your letters and comments. Please send them to The Paper, 787 Laine St. #5, Monterey, CA 93940 or via e-mail to [wes@mbay.net](mailto:wes@mbay.net)*

## The Paper

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Marsha Olson, Sara Luiz, Michael Capristo

## Layout, Website, Advertising Queen

Wes Kashiwagi

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Business cards (2 x 3-1/2 -or- 3-1/2 x 2) ..... \$ 20.  
1/6 page (3-1/2 x 4) ..... 40.  
1/4 page (5 x 6) ..... 80.  
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Sept/Oct 1998 issue

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Submissions: Sept. 2

Ad placement deadline: Sept. 2

Ad materials: Sept. 6

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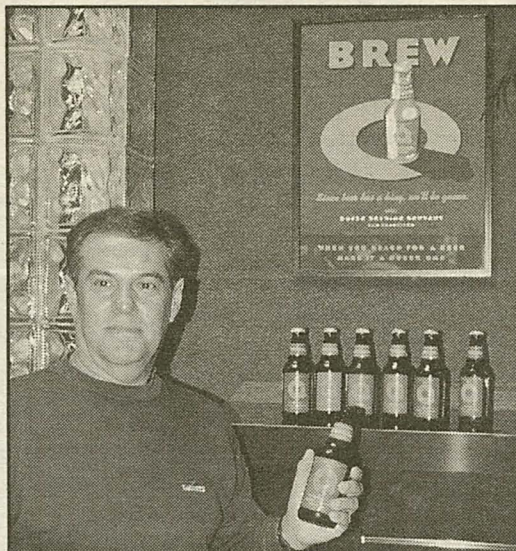
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# Local News

## Queer Beer Appears



Monterey residents can now sample the only alcoholic beverage produced specifically for the gay community. The After Dark nightclub in Monterey is one of the first five gay bars offering the "queer" pale ale, Q Beer.

The brainchild of former San Francisco marketing executive Phillip Feemster, Q Beer is brewed by the Queer Brewing Co. in San Francisco. Bottle labels are printed in the six colors of the pride rainbow.

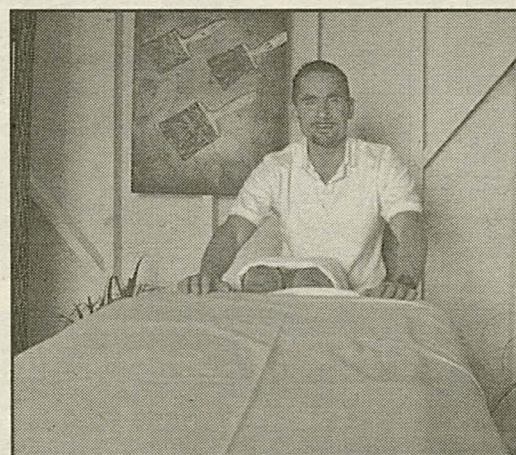
The product was launched just prior to San Francisco's Gay Pride festival in June of this year. It is currently available at markets, liquor

stores, restaurants, and bars in San Francisco and has become the second best seller after Sierra Nevada Pale Ale in some locations.

"Everyone that has tried it has liked it," said After Dark co-owner Weldon Webb (pictured left) "They say it has a taste somewhere between Sierra Nevada Pale Ale and Anchor Steam."

Ten percent of sales from each \$3 bottle of Q Beer are earmarked for local charities. The After Dark named the Monterey County AIDS Project as the beneficiary for its sales of the beer.

The After Dark is located at 214 Lighthouse Ave. in Monterey. -WK



## The New Hands in Town

Massage therapist David Burke (pictured left) opened The Sugar Shack, a one-man massage studio in Seaside. Burke, a graduate of the Monterey Institute of Touch, specializes in Shiatsu, polarity, Swedish, Sports, and deep tissue massage.

Unlike some "massage therapists," Burke noted, his services are intended only for healing bodywork and are strictly professional.

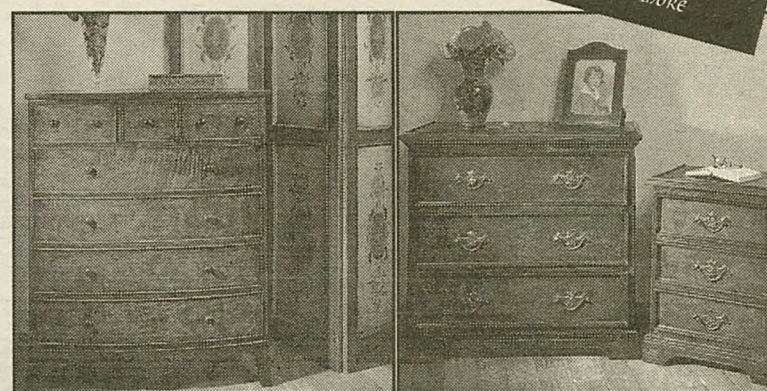
The Sugar Shack is located in a small renovated building behind the offices of the Monterey County AIDS Project at 780 Hamilton. Burke organized local massage therapists earlier this year to volunteer their services to people living with HIV.

You can contact Burke to schedule an appointment at 831/751-1004 during normal business hours. -WK

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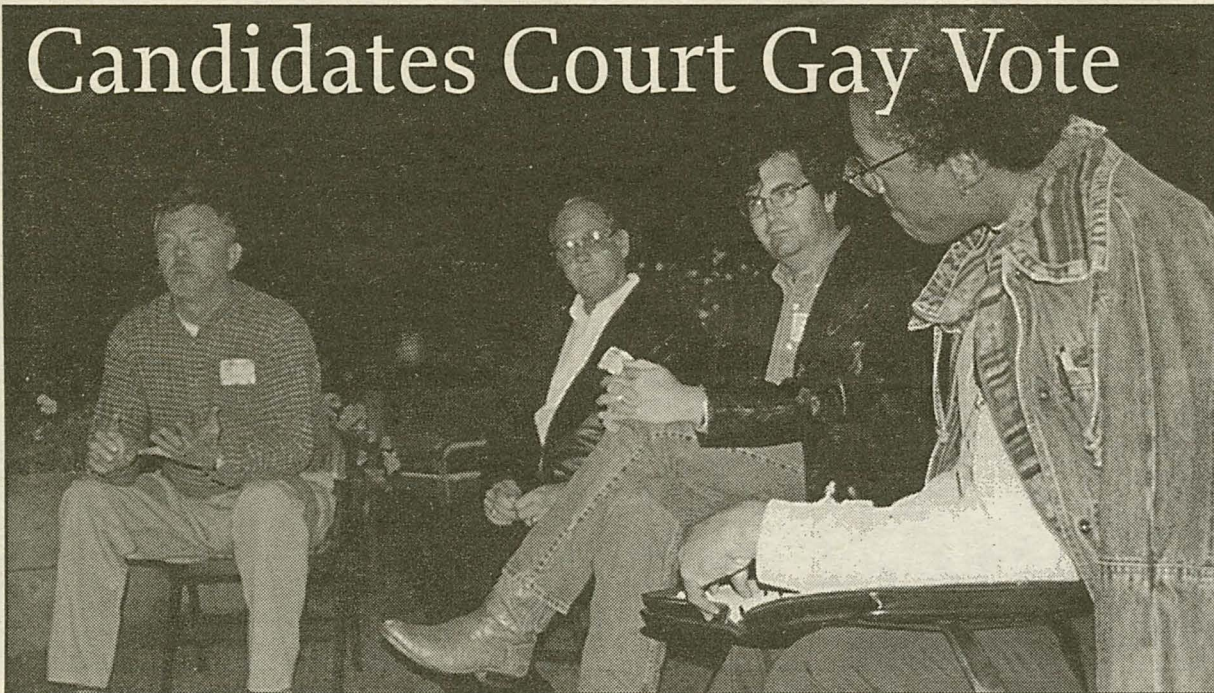
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## Candidates Court Gay Vote



Candidates met with PPN members in Del Rey Oaks to discuss gay and non-gay issues. Pictured left (from right to left) Gary Shallcross representing Assembly-member Fred Keeley, former Salinas mayor Alan Styles, Republican candidate Phil Chavez, and a PPN member.

by Ken D. Dietz

Candidates running for office in local elections met with members of the Peninsula Professional Network (PPN) July 8th in Del Rey Oaks. Each candidate was given time to present their views on various issues, then fielded questions from PPN members.

Phil Chavez is a local Republican running against incumbent Fred Keeley for State Assembly. Chavez characterized himself as someone who was "standing up for the individual" against groups vying for politicians' attention.

Chavez is for stronger drug enforcement, noting that heroin addiction in Santa Cruz is three times the national average. He is

also for increasing school funding, and supports the creation of charter schools and the use of school voucher

Alan Styles, former mayor of Salinas, said that he views "constituents as partners." A 29-year resident of Salinas, Styles is a Democrat and is also strong on education. His concern is spread equally between looking after the well-being of the state and local communities. Styles hopes to leverage his years of experience as mayor if he is elected. Styles is running against arch-conservative and anti-gay incumbent Peter Frussetta.

Fred Keeley, who is running for re-election to State Assembly, was unable to attend. Keeley sent his representative Gary Shallcross in his stead. Shallcross, who is

also a PPN member, said, "As a gay man, I'm proud to be working for Fred." Shallcross mentioned that Keeley has a strong record of supporting gay issues, having led the Santa Cruz boycott of Colorado after the passing of anti-gay Proposition 2 and supported establishing domestic partnership benefits for Santa Cruz County employees. Keeley is also one of the few candidates to mention his gay supporters regularly at non-gay political events.

Although most of the questions dealt with non-gay issues, Styles voiced his concern over the lack of a visible gay community in Salinas. "I know we have a gay community in Salinas but we don't hear from you". Styles said that he would welcome input from representatives of the gay community.

## Asian Antique Store Opens in Carmel



Robert Wolf and Michael Evans opened Vermillion in Carmel. The store offers a wide selection of Asian antiques and art objects, as well as classes in the Chinese art of Feng Shui.

Michael Evans and Robert Wolf recently returned to the Peninsula to turn their passion into a business. Their shop, Vermillion, opened its doors in Carmel's Crossroads Shopping Center in June. The store offers a wide selection of Asian antiques and decorative art.

The interior of the shop was redesigned by Wolf, a member of the IIDA, with the assistance of a priest expert in Feng Shui, the Chinese art of placement. The store offers special seminars on Feng Shui and other Asian art forms.

Both Wolf and Evans lived on the peninsula for before moving to San Francisco and finally to Phoenix. The pair decided to start Vermillion after working several years in academia, collecting Asian antiques as a pastime. Locals may remember Evans from his stint at the Clock Garden Restaurant.

"Asian art and antiques stir memories of place, affirm individual taste and identity, and feed our insatiable desire to hunt and gather," said Wolf.

Vermillion is open from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Saturday, and 12 p.m. to 5 p.m. on Sunday.

You can call Wolf or Evans at 831/620-1905 or send e-mail to vermilion@tias.com. -WK

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# MontereyPride

Marching Gaily Forward



## SanJosePride

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Pebble Beach Company naturalist Roxayne Spruance uses nature to help students learn basic reading and science skills.

For Roxayne Spruance, volunteering means spending nights with sea otters at the Monterey Bay Aquarium. And working afternoons helping local schools.

Roxayne gets a valuable reward every time a child's eyes light up with the joy of discovery. And for the students, schoolwork gets a lot more interesting.

Roxayne is one of many Pebble Beach Company employees who actively volunteer in Monterey County.

Each finds satisfaction protecting the environment or improving the life of a child, adult, or family in need.

You can make a positive difference in someone's life today. To learn more, call The Volunteer Center of Monterey County at (800) 776-9176. The person you help most could be yourself!

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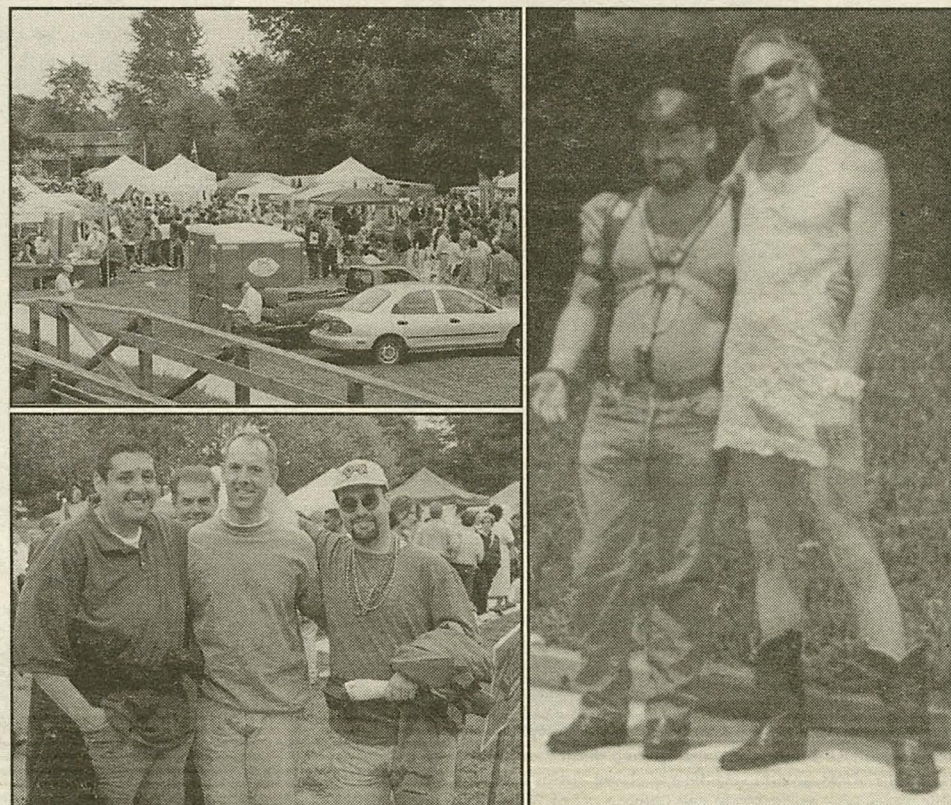


Pebble Beach Company

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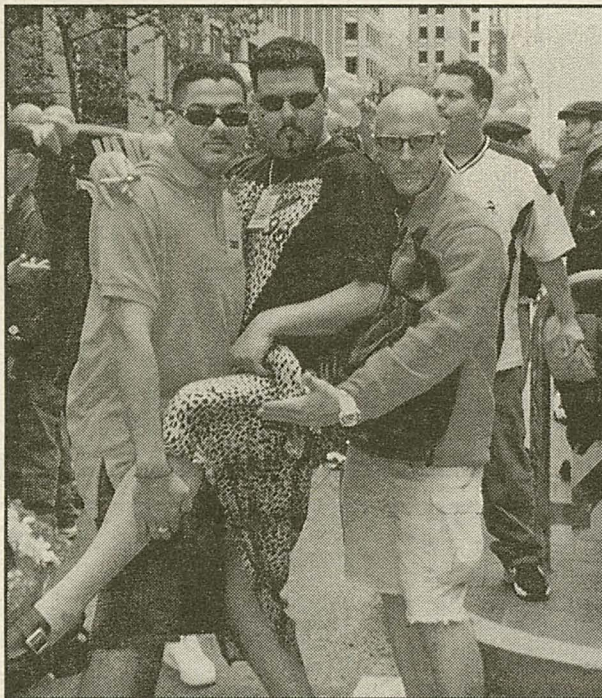
## SantaCruzPride







# San Francisco Pride



by Larry

June was the month of peace, love, and pride. Monterey's pride weekend (June 18th-21st) was a great success. The kick-off party was held at the After Dark on Thursday with DJ Deno & David Harness working the turntables. The club was packed and the music was off the hook.

Saturday's festival after the parade was awesome. DJ Jav was there to spin some slammin' old school tracks. The festival went on without a hitch...well, except for Miss Bernice Labelle's sprained ankle (hope you feel better Miss Labelle).

Afterwards we shifted over to the After Dark for the 1st Annual White Party. The club opened at 6 p.m. and went to 2 a.m. DJ's Marsha, Larry, Steve Kaos & Jeff B. kept the crowd pumping all night long. Sunday Miss Bernice showed us that no matter what the show must go on. Even with a nasty sprained ankle she worked a packed house with a pride drag show extraordinaire.

The weekend of San Francisco's pride festival (June 26th-28th) was the bomb! So many things went on. Radio station KMEL 106FM hosted the 1st annual pride princess cruise on the bay. DJs Booker T from London, Neon Leon from Germany, and San Francisco house legends Pete Avila and David Harness rocked the boat spinning the hottest house music. An after party was held at the End Up.

On the 27th the Pink Saturday festival was held on the Castro. That night, Club Universe held their annual pride party. The club was standing room only with wall-to-wall



muscle boys, fierce house music, and live performances by Joi Cardwell and Ultra Naté.

Sunday's parade was unbelievable. Yours truly was there representing Monterey on the KMEL/Yo Mama's House float. At the end of the parade, a dance stage was hosted by KMEL, with DJs Ruben Mancias, Neon Leon, David Harness and Pete Avila. Foxxee Brown, host of Yo Mama's House, emceed the festivities, which included live acts by Michelle Weeks, Joi Cardwell, and Ultra Naté, and a fireworks display that almost caused a "Michael Jackson Pepsi" catastrophe. We all escaped unburned and at 5 p.m. the party shifted to the End Up with a live performance by Billie Ray Martin. Many party people pranced off to Pleasuredome till the wee hours of Monday morning. For those of you who were able to attend the festivities, you know it was unforgettable!

## Pride Top 10

1. Music Sounds Better - Stardust
2. Heaven - Danny Taneglia
3. Freedom - Sabrina Johnston
4. Sunday Morning - Backroom Congregation
5. Nobody Else - Ce Ce Peniston
6. The Horn Song - The Don
7. In My Life - Jose Nunez f/Octavia
8. We Do Deep - Janet
9. Music Is the Answer - Danny Taneglia
10. Take Me Up - Ralphie Rosario f/Donna Blakely

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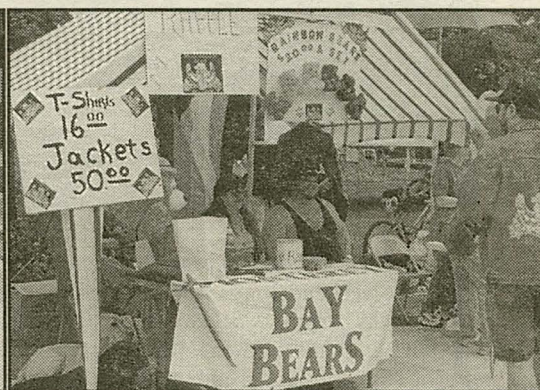
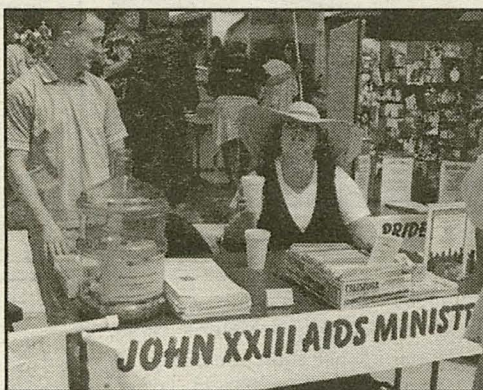
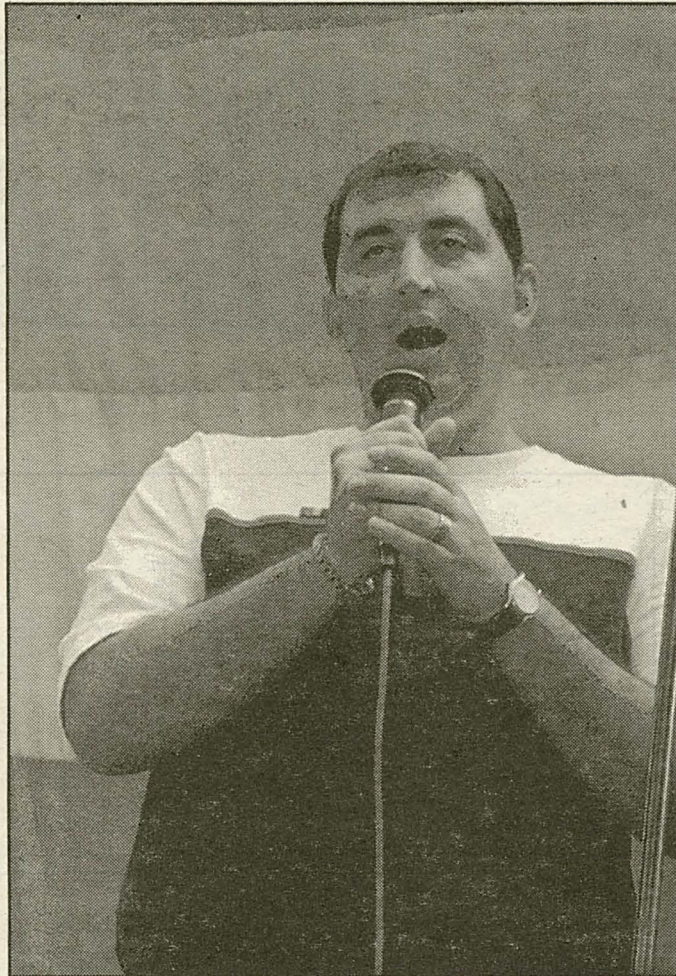
Tom Tanner

Certified Massage Practitioner

753-0149



# MontereyPride



Center Row (above):

The Pride Booth

John XXIII AIDS Ministry

YWCA

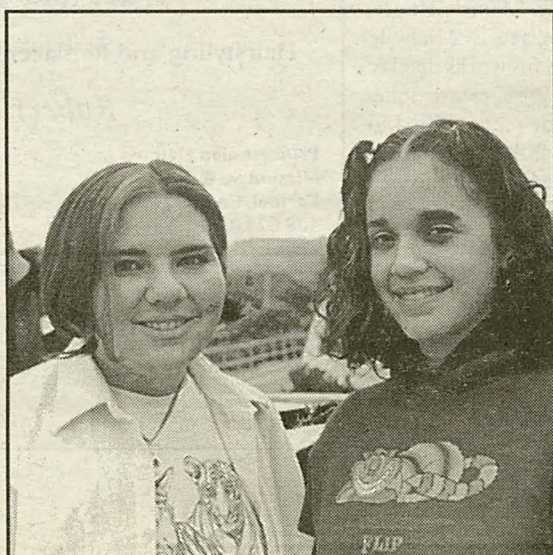
Monterey Bay Bears Club

Monterey County AIDS Project

Democratic Party

Gay Christians

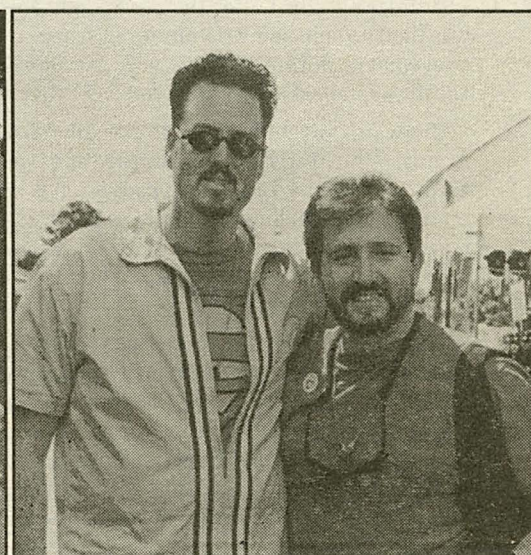
Gay Teen Alliance



Young pride marchers



Monterey County Supervisor Dave Potter (right)



Fiances Kenneth Allen and George Miranda sharing a hug



# Pride Committee

**Brad Harlan, Chair**  
**Ricardo Burney, Co-chair**  
**Chuck Nesbitt, Treasurer**  
**Anita Hilton, Secretary**  
**Bruce Carlson**  
**Matthew Friday**  
**Steven Keller**  
**Clark Gillete**  
**Nancy Thohey**

# Bands

**Bitter Plum**  
**Crush**  
**DJs**  
**Morine Quinn**  
**Sam Hisey**  
**Javier Jimenez**

# Sponsors & Friends

**After Dark**  
**Carmel Floral Co.**  
**The Mayors and City**  
**Council of Monterey,**  
**Seaside, Marina,**  
**Salinas, & Pacific Grove**  
**President Bill Clinton**  
**Assemblymember**  
**Fred Keeley**

# Lighthouse Bar & Grill

**Peninsula Home**  
**Design Center**  
**Monterey County Board**  
**of Supervisors**  
**Congressman Sam Farr**  
**Senator Barbara Boxer**



Top Row (from far left)

Kevin Brichfield sings the national anthem

Pride Committee Chair Brad Harlan welcomes the crowd

Pride Committee Co-chair Ricardo Burney entertains with Labelle

Ineeda Richman shows off a pride banner

(top) MCAP Executive Director Cajetan Luna and Board President Lorraine Flaherty

(bottom) Square dancing Monterey Bay Bears

Sharing a smooch at the After Dark

More of the Pride March



Four generations of pride.



Bob Heinbockel in front of the floral arrangement donated by the Pebble Beach Company in support of Monterey's Gay Pride.



# Community

## Gay

### July

#### Fri, 24

##### Free Pool Night at the LB&G

Every Friday at the Lighthouse Bar & Grill, 281 Lighthouse Ave., Monterey, 373-4488.

##### Gay Teen Alliance Meeting

For gay, bisexual, and questioning men and women under 25 years old. Confidential and safe. Call Craig Wenzl at 831/772-7202. Meetings every 2nd and 4th Friday. Social events.

##### Lesbian Night at Franco's

Every 2nd and 4th Friday. 10639 Merritt St., Castroville (near the Wells Fargo). 633-2090.

#### Sat, 25

##### Dancing at Franco's

The only gay club between Monterey and Santa Cruz and one of the hottest dancefloors on the Central Coast. Cover \$5. 10639 Merritt St., Castroville (near the Wells Fargo). 633-2090.

#### Sun, 26

##### Beer Bust at the LB&G

Every Sunday. The nicest place in Monterey to relax on a Sunday afternoon. Pool tables and a bigscreen TV for everything from football to "Ellen" reruns. From 2 p.m. to closing. At the Lighthouse Bar & Grill, 281 Lighthouse Ave., Monterey, 373-4488.

#### Mon, 27

##### Gay Coffee Chat at Morgan's

Every Monday. At Morgan's Coffee and Tea, 498 Washington in Monterey. A very friendly group get together outside of a bar atmosphere. Starts around 6:30 p.m.

### Tues, 28

##### Gay Movie Night in Salinas

At the office of the Monterey County AIDS Project, 12 E. Gabilan. Call Craig Wenzl at 772-8202 for movie title and information.

##### Monterey PFLAG Meeting

Parent's and Friends of Lesbians and Gays. Meets the 4th Tuesday of every month in Carmel. Call 655-FLAG for info on meetings and speakers. Santa Cruz Chapter 662-4780.

##### Gay Volleyball

Every Tuesday night at 6 p.m. on Carmel Beach (at the volleyball courts near the parking lot at the foot of Ocean Ave. Also on Thursday nights, but keep an eye open for schedule changes. For more info, contact Brian at sqquirt@aol.com or call 831/394-5407.

### Thu, 30

##### Dancing at the After Dark

Featuring DJs from San Francisco and Monterey. Known as the place to do on a Thursday night. At the After Dark nightclub in Monterey, 214 Lighthouse Ave., 373-7828. Dance floor opens at 10 p.m. (\$3 cover after 10).

##### Gay Volleyball

See listing for July 28. Thursday schedule subject to change.

### Fri, 31

##### Silicon Valley Gay Men's Chorus

Will appear in "We Are Family," featuring music from the groovin' 1970s. San Jose Repertory Theater, San Jose. Friday 7/31 and 8/1. Reserved seats \$15, \$20, \$30. Tickets: 408/275-6344 or www.rppa.org/svgmc

##### Decorative Arts and Feng Shui

How to evaluate the energy and symbols of antiques and decorative arts so you can improve your purchasing decisions, placement, and positive effects. Includes an exploration of the *wabi sabi* aesthetic of Japanese arts. 7 p.m. \$10 per person. Limited seating so RSVP. At Vermillion, The Crossroads Shopping Center in Carmel, 831/620-1502.

### August

#### Sun, 2

##### John XXIII Benefit Brunch in Carmel

A fabulous brunch at Il Fornaio restaurant, Monte Verde and Ocean Ave. At 1 p.m. \$20 per person. Call John XXIII AIDS Ministry at 831/655-1737 for tickets and information.

#### Mon, 3

##### Gay Coffee Chat

At Morgan's in Monterey. See listing under July 27th.

#### Tue, 4

##### Gay Volleyball

See listing for July 28. Thursday schedule subject to change.

#### Wed, 5

##### Gay Movie Night in Seaside

7 p.m.-9 p.m. at the office of the Monterey County AIDS Project, 780 Hamilton in Seaside. Call Craig Wenzl at 772-8202 for movie title and information.

#### Fri, 7

##### Feng Shui in Healing Gardens

How garden design creates energy to heal and move you out of limited living into more satisfying life paths. 7 p.m. \$10 per person. Limited seating so RSVP. At Vermillion, The Crossroads Shopping Center in Carmel, 831/620-1502.

#### Mon, 10

##### Gay Coffee Chat

At Morgan's in Monterey. See listing under July 27th.

### Tues, 11

##### Gay Volleyball

Every Tuesday night at 6 p.m. on Carmel Beach (at the volleyball courts near the parking lot at the foot of Ocean Ave. For more information, contact Brian at sqquirt@aol.com or call 831/394-5407.

##### Gay Movie Night in Salinas

At the office of the Monterey County AIDS Project, 12 E. Gabilan. Call Craig Wenzl at 772-8202 for movie title and information.

### Wed, 12

##### PPN Meeting

Join the largest gay organization on the Central Coast for informative presentations and refreshments at the homes of other members. Monthly newsletter and social/educational evenings with speakers for gays, lesbians, bisexuals, and transgenders. Second Wednesday of every month. Call Del or Donn at 659-2446 for exact time and location.

### Thu, 13

##### Gay Alcoholics Anonymous in P.G.

Call 373-3713 for location. Starts at 8 p.m.

### Fri, 14

##### Monterey Bay Bears

One of the most active gay social organization in Monterey County and growing every month. Open to all. Potluck meetings are at 7 p.m. in Seaside. Call Bruce or Tex at 408/392-1482, MontereyBayBears@usa.net

##### Lesbian Night at Franco's

Every 2nd and 4th Friday. 10639 Merritt St., Castroville (near the Wells Fargo). 633-2090.

##### Gay Teen Alliance Meeting

For gay, bisexual, and questioning men and women under 25 years old. Confidential and safe. Call Craig Wenzl at 831/772-7202. Meetings every 2nd and 4th Friday. Social events.

#### V.E.R.M.I.L.L.I.O.N

Asian, Ethnic, & Tribal Antiques  
Decorative Arts & Jewelry  
Designer Consultant  
And  
Trade Resource

Michael Evans  
And  
Robert Wolf, IIDA

The Crossroads Shopping Center  
240 Crossroads Boulevard  
Carmel, California 93923  
(408) 620-1502

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Massage Therapist  
Carmel Valley • M.I.T. Graduate  
Healing Bodywork—Strictly Professional  
No calls after midnight please

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Home

## SummerRentals

### The Wedding Banquet

Dir: Ang Lee, 1994

A fluffy but enjoyable Taiwanese comedy of manners about two gay lovers, a starving artist, filial piety, and Chinese wedding rituals. Though many of the cultural references are left intentionally unexplained and some of the English dialogue is unintelligible, the storyline is straightforward enough to remain engaging. Gay content is limited to a few chaste kisses between the male leads, but the gay references are right on target. Acting is stodgy but passable and the script goes easy on the maudlin sentimentality, the MSG of 90s cinema. ▼▼▼

### Freaks

Dir: Tod Browning, 1932

*Freaks* is one of the most disturbing movies I saw as a teenager. Many of the actors in this thinly woven tale of deceit and revenge are physically deformed: the pinheaded girls, the man whose body ends at the navel and walks on his hands, the armless girl who drinks from a glass using her toes. These actors, all cast as freak show attractions in a traveling circus, are pitted against a beautiful but treacherous acrobat. If this sounds like camp, it is. But, if by the finale you aren't chanting "One of US! One of US! Gooble gobble gobble" you have no heart. ▼▼

### Johnny Mnemonic

Dir: Robert Longo, 1995

If you're following Keenu Reeves' soft-boiled oeuvre, you won't want to miss this cyber-fairy tale. Otherwise, it's a snooze. Set in the near future where data is transported via the brains of electronically augmented couriers, the film is disjointed and the actors unconvincing. A more capable director such as Paul Verhoeven would have done wonders with this script. ▼

### Alien Resurrection

Dir: Jean-Pierre Jeunet, 1995

The last and perhaps final reincarnation of Sigourney Weaver's Ripley, butch alien-killer in outer space. The storyline is once again built on the "let's breed them thar aliens to do our biddin'" and captures some of the origi-

nal's paranoia and Saturday matinee scary movie jitters. On a subtext level, however, this is squarely in line with the James Cameron version, which means what you see on the screen is all you have to talk about afterward over coffee. Ripley's revelations show off Weaver's command of her limited acting range, particularly the scene where uncovers her less successful predecessors. ▼▼▼

### Chasing Amy

Dir: Kevin Smith, 1997

Gen-X love story. Boy draws comics, girl draws comics, boy wants girl, girl wants girl, boy talks compulsively. I don't know when my peers decided that we were the bon vivants of the 90s, but, boy, we need practice. Indie porno script is gay-friendly in the extreme, but prone to endless absurdist barking (yawn). Still, 30-somethings



# Calendar

## Happenings on the Central Coast

### Tue, 18

#### Gay Volleyball

See listing for July 28. Thursday schedule subject to change, so call before showing up.

### Wed, 19

#### Gay Movie Night in Seaside

7 p.m.-9 p.m. at the office of the Monterey County AIDS Project, 780 Hamilton in Seaside. Call Craig Wenzl at 772-8202 for movie title and information.

### Mon, 24

#### Gay Coffee Chat

At Morgan's in Monterey. See listing under July 27th.

### Tue, 25

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### Fri, 28

#### Gay Teen Alliance Meeting

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### Mon, 31

#### Gay Coffee Chat

At Morgan's in Monterey. See listing under July 27th.

## September

### Wed, 2

#### Gay Movie Night in Seaside

7 p.m.-9 p.m. at the office of the Monterey County AIDS Project, 780 Hamilton in Seaside. Call Craig Wenzl at 772-8202 for movie title and information.

### Fri-Sun, 4-6

#### Club Skirts Women's Weekend

The third annual gathering at the Monterey Hyatt Hotel. Comedy shows, dances, golf tournaments, and pool parties make this the biggest gay event on the Central Coast. Comediennes Karen Ripley, Michele Bala, and Karen Williams perform Friday, followed by a dance with go-go girls. Saturday is the golf tournament on the Del Monte golf course, and a dance DJed by Paige Hodel and featuring dance diva Tia ("Slip and Slide"). Singer Jill Sobule ("I Kissed a Girl") will perform on Sunday. For a brochure, call 1-888/5-SKIRTS. To reserve a room, call the Hyatt at 831/372-1234 and mention Club Skirts.

### Mon, 7

#### The Paper Deadline

Send in your articles, letters, rants and raves, calendar events, etc. Ad placement deadline now coincides with the article deadline with ad materials due the following week. We are still particularly interested in lesbian-themed new articles, anything involving community activities, and the ever-popular news section. Call 831/655-3756 or e-mail wes@mbay.net for info. Please leave a detailed message.

#### Gay Coffee Chat at Morgan's

Every Monday. At Morgan's Coffee and Tea, 498 Washington in Monterey. A very friendly group to get together outside of a bar atmosphere. Starts around 7 p.m.

### Tue, 8

#### Gay Volleyball

See listing for July 28.

#### Gay Movie Night in Salinas

At the office of the Monterey County AIDS Project, 12 E. Gabilan. Call Craig Wenzl at 772-8202 for movie title and information.

### Wed, 9

#### PPN Meeting

Join the largest gay organization on the Central Coast for informative presentations and refreshments at the homes of other members. Second Wednesday of every month. Call Del 659-2446 for time and location.

### Fri, 10/1

#### Monterey Bay Bears

One of the most active gay social organization in Monterey County and growing every month. Open to all. Potluck meetings are in Seaside. Call Bruce or Tex at (408) 392-1482. E-mail MontereyBayBears@usa.net.

#### Gay Teen Alliance Meeting

For gay, bisexual, and questioning men and women under 25 years old. Confidential and safe. Call Craig Wenzl at 831/772-7202. Meetings every 2nd and 4th Friday. Social events.

#### Lesbian Night at Franco's

Every 2nd and 4th Friday. 10639 Merritt St., Castroville (near the Wells Fargo). 633-2090.

### Mon, 14

#### Triangle Speakers Meeting

Santa Cruz-based gay, lesbian, and bisexual speakers bureau monthly business meeting. 133 Mission St., Ste. 100 in Santa Cruz. To have Triangle Speakers speak to your organization call 408/425-3227. Contact Cynthia Druley at 408/429-6529.

#### Gay Coffee Chat at Morgan's

Every Monday. At Morgan's Coffee and Tea, 498 Washington in Monterey. A very friendly group to get together outside of a bar atmosphere. Starts around 7 p.m.

### Tues, 15

#### Bears Dine Out

The Monterey Bay Bears "Dinner Night" is the first Tuesday of every month. Call Tex at 408/392-1482.

#### Gay Volleyball

See listing for July 28. Thursday schedule subject to change, so call before showing up.

### Wed, 16

#### Gay Movie Night in Seaside

7 p.m.-9 p.m. at the office of the Monterey County AIDS Project, 780 Hamilton in Seaside. Call Craig Wenzl at 772-8202 for movie title and information.

*If you would like your events publicized in the next issue, please send them to The Paper by May 2nd. Listings will also appear on Monterey's Gay Website, so include your e-mail address or website URL if you want a hyperlink.*

#### Companies Offer Domestic Partnership Benefits

- CTB/McGraw-Hill (Monterey)
- Community Hospital of the Monterey Peninsula (Monterey)
- EDS (Monterey)
- Salinas Valley Memorial Hospital (Salinas)
- Sony Disc Manufacturing (Monterey)
- Starlight International, Inc. (Monterey)
- Watsonville Community Hospital (Watsonville, in negotiation)
- TCI (Monterey)

*Does your company offer domestic partnership benefits? We want to know. Send your information to The Paper at 787 Laine St. #5, Monterey, CA 93940. 655-3756, wes@mbay.net*

will get a kick out of long, frank discussions of lesbian sex ("How big can a tongue really get?") and the realizations of what really drives everyday friendships. ▼▼▼▼

#### The Fifth Element

#### Dir: Luc Besson, 1997

Director Besson claims to have written this story in his childhood, which is believable considering its purity of thought. 22nd century Earth is in danger and only the efforts of a ragtag group of misfits can save us all (deus ex machina, baby). As in all Besson films, the production design is flawless, as are the special effects and casting. Leads Bruce Willis and Milla Jovovich are as comfy in their Gaultier as in their roles as our affable savors, and Chris Tucker's sustained manic mincing as a radio host are the height of fabulousness. ▼▼▼▼

## gayweb

#### Monterey's Gay Website

www.mbay.net/~wes/monterey  
Your source for local gay resources, businesses, and breaking news.

#### Aesau

www.mbay.net/~sbaylus/Aesau.html  
The summer issue of Aesau is up and operating. The topic is "Language Itself" Expect direct inquiry, fine poetry, rich links as well as the usual puns, gags and delightful twisting turns of free association!

#### Monterey Bay Bears

www.geocities.com/WestHollywood/Village/9796

The local bear club has a new web page

#### Project Update On The Web

www.xq.com/MPH

Gay marriage information from Hawaii

## LesbianEvents

#### Women's Gathering at MCAP

In the crazy realm of reality, sometimes we need to take a breather. The women's program at the Monterey County AIDS Project is offering a space space for lesbian, bisexual and questioning women to come together and talk. What it means to be a woman today, the media's portrayal of women, favorite flowers, tastes great vs. less-filling... Anything goes! 7-9 p.m. at MCAP's Seaside office. For info call Jen @ 772-8206

#### Women's Storytelling, Monthly Brunch, and Song Circle

Call the Lesbian Alliance for information and schedule at 408/648-4338.

#### Breakfast in Bed: Women's Radio

On 88.1 KAZU-FM. From 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. every Sunday.

#### My Sister's House: Women's Radio

On 90.3 KAZU-FM. From 9 a.m. to noon every Thursday.

#### Women's Weekend in Monterey

September 4-6. See article this issue. For tickets, call 888/5-SKIRTS.

## QueerRadio

#### Radio Q/Talk of the Bay

Monday, 6:30 p.m. Interview and news for the gay community and beyond. KUSP 88.9 FM

#### This Way Out

Monday, 6:30 p.m. Radio Q/Talk of the Bay. KUSP, 88.9 FM

## ReligiousServices

#### E C Monterey

A Pro-Gay & Lesbian Inter-denominational Christian Fellowship meets the 2nd and 4th Sundays at 5 p.m. for fun, sharing and study. All welcome. Call 646-1804

#### Lavender Road Metropolitan Community Church

Services held Sunday, 10 a.m. at Mariposa Hall, 801 Lighthouse Ave in Monterey. In Santa Cruz, Grace United Methodist Church, 1024 Soquel Ave. at 5 p.m. Call Rev. Jean Hart at 408/459-8442. P.O. Box 1764, Santa Cruz, CA 95060. lrmcc@geocities.com

#### Integrity (Gay Episcopalians)

An updated listing of local Episcopalian churches that are gay-friendly is now available. Call 484-2326.

#### St. Matthias Episcopal Church

A "house of prayer for all people." Gay-friendly congregation. Sundays Holy Eucharist at 10 a.m. 1092 Noche Buena at Kimball, Seaside. 408/394-1744.



# The Relationship Project

## How to find the partner of your dreams...

by Michael Capristo  
Contributing Writer

Let me start by saying that I am currently in the process of searching for a fulfilling relationship myself. I do not profess to be a relationship expert or anything close to it. I do, however, think that after speaking to numerous people in our community on this subject that I have a few observations I would like to share.

For those of you who are perfectly happy being single, this article is definitely not for you. Okay, enough with the disclaimer!

### The 5-second Rule

I recently spoke with several people in a leisurely Sunday evening (you know who you are). Naturally the topic of "relationships" became a subject of the conversation.

A very dear friend made a comment to the effect that he could determine the suitability of a life partner within about five seconds of meeting. Although this was said in jest, there is a ring of truthfulness in the concept.

Most of us have a preconceived idea of what Mr. or Ms. Right will be like. When you meet new people you apply this "test" to determine if this individual is even possible acceptable. Furthermore, many of us make this determination even BEFORE we meet people (i.e. "Oh, my god, that hideous hair..." or "Those clothes are a definite don't..."). Maybe we should keep in mind that hair can be cut, a wardrobe can be changed, and yes, honey, money definitely does NOT make the man (or woman, as the case may be)!

If you are truly hoping to find a life partner, is it really wise to use this type of criteria? Can you realistically make such a profound judgment about someone you have only known for five seconds? I think not.

### Fulfillment or Function?

I'm not professing that anyone alter their standards for a partner. However, the question does come to mind, are you looking for fulfillment or functionality? Does he have the perfect pecs? Does she have flawless legs? The right car? The perfect home, job, walk, voice, dog, cat—and the list goes on. Let's face it, how functional do you think it's going to be in fifty years anyway? Even if you do marry Mr. Perfect

Pecs, how happy will you be when you find out that he REALLY thinks that morals are paintings on walls and scruples are money in Russia?

### More is Better

Most people put more effort into buying a vehicle than in finding a life partner. That is a pretty sad statement. The truth is that Mr. or Ms. Right is probably not going to miraculously step into your living room and introduce themselves to you. The name of the game is dating and—let me assure you—it is DEFINITELY a numbers game. The more people you put yourself in a position to meet and get to know, the better are your chances of meeting a life partner. It is not as difficult as many people make it out to be. Be aware of your body language: a smile and polite "Hello" while waiting in line at the bank can go a long way in this department. But, sorry



The question does come to mind, are you looking for fulfillment or functionality?

folks, you can't do it from your plush chaise lounge eating bonbons. And, let's face it sister, you aren't getting any more svelte due to that quart of Haagen Daz either!

Although you don't have to go to bars or clubs to meet people, it is one of the few places where you can be relatively secure in knowing that you are surrounded by like minded individuals. Whether or not they would admit it, many people would very much like to find Mr. or Ms. Right. Let's face it, you feel that way or you wouldn't be reading this now would you?

### Up Close and Personal

Personal ads are one alternative for meeting new people (and one of the few ways you can at least start from that chaise lounge). Before you set out to write your ad, you should think about what you are hoping to find in a partner, honestly. Check out ads that are currently available for format and content.

If you are seeking a long-term relationship with someone who is well-

rounded, gregarious, fun loving, honest, compassionate, etc., it doesn't make much sense to advertise for someone who is 6'2", blond, and hung like Mr. Ed. Be truthful about yourself and what you want, even if it hurts! GWM, 5'10", 175 lbs., muscular, wealthy, professional male model...when you show up for the date and are short, plump, balding and unemployed your new friend may not be a friend for long. What's up with that anyway? What do you expect to accomplish? Think they won't notice? Think again.

### Getting Started

Approach your new project with a positive attitude. If you like the person you are, other people will see it. Consider yourself your latest, and greatest, home improvement project! Feel free to make small touch ups or, hell, a total renovation if that's what it takes, but make it happen! Most

list of your good and bad qualities. Emphasize your better attributes and try to overcome your poor ones.

During conversations, ask intelligent questions: Have you had the opportunity to travel? How to you spend your free time? Do you like to cook? Find out about their hobbies and interests, and tell them about yours.

Does this sound like an interview? Well, it is. After all, girl, we are only talking about the rest of your life! Getting to know people is exactly how you'll know if this is a person you would like to know more about and spend a little more time with.

### And Ye Shall Receive

Once you've met someone, don't be afraid to ask them out. Rejection is probably one of the biggest fears we have concerning dating. It is, however, a necessary evil. Again,



this is a numbers game. The more people you ask out, the more dates you end up with. Not everyone will decline, but don't expect everyone to accept either.

Rejection is a fact of life for everyone. The more quickly you recover from rejection, the better off you will be. Don't take it too personally. After all, you are a good catch, it is THEIR loss. Dating etiquette prescribes that having asked, you pay for the date. If your new friend insists on going dutch, it is okay to accept. But, never, ever EXPECT for your date to pay his/her own way; it is considered rude.

Know when the person you ask out is unavailable. If you ask out Jane and she says, 'Wow, you know, I've got this huge project I'm working on. Call me back in a month', she is politely declining your invitation. Besides, if you wait the month, not dating anyone else, and then she again declines, you've done nothing but waste a month. If someone really likes you, they will make the time.

### Why Do Birds Suddenly Appear...

The "love at first sight" syndrome is an easy trap to fall into as well. Practically everyone knows someone who just happened to make eye contact with their life partner in the pasta section of the supermarket and it was as if an atomic bomb went off. And, as the story goes, they spent the next fifty years in peaceful bliss adoring one another. Blah, blah, blah, blah, blah...yeah, whatever girlfriend.

All I know is that most of us have a much better chance at winning the lottery without buying a ticket. The majority of lasting relationships didn't start off with a bang (no pun intended), but rather a slow smolder and slowly developed into a raging inferno.

### Slut or Prude?

Sex...the double-edged sword (again, no pun intended!). If you have sex on the first date, you are a slut. By the same token, if you don't, you're a prude.

Sex is the most intimate of acts. If you are having sex, just to have sex, see it for what it is. A one night stand is one thing, the rest of your life is another. Know the difference.

If you are seeking a life companion, sex is a great way to express exactly how you feel about your partner. Sex is not, however, a very good way to start a lasting relationship. If you do meet someone with whom you have great "chemistry," get to know them first.

Remember, the first few dates set the tone for the duration of your relationship. If these dates are based on sex, then your relationship is likely to be based on not much more. Knowledge, respect and true affection take a little time to develop, and sex can be INCREDIBLE when you can express these things to your partner. Some things are worth the wait.

There is someone out there for everyone, you just have to know how to go about looking. Don't be surprised if you suddenly find them in the last place you thought possible! Just remember, go out there with a positive attitude...dressed to vaporize...smile and flirt your ass off...ask them out...and, most importantly, don't drop your drink when they say 'yes'!





# Marsha

## Fashion Highlights Summer '98

by Marsha K. Olson  
Fashion Columnist

**S**UMMER IS FINALLY HERE! And, it's time to take a vacation, visit friends, family, or just hit the road. You may have had a trip in mind that you've planned all year or you've decided to take a spur of the moment trip out of town. Or perhaps you're thinking about leaving the country to see the sights of Europe, Asia, or to head Down Under. You will need basic essentials to pack, plus "must haves" in hand for day to night. Depending on your destination, it's always safe to bring cool and warm items—you never know...one day it will be scorching, the next may be a monsoon. Here's a fashion list of items you may want to haul along on your trip.

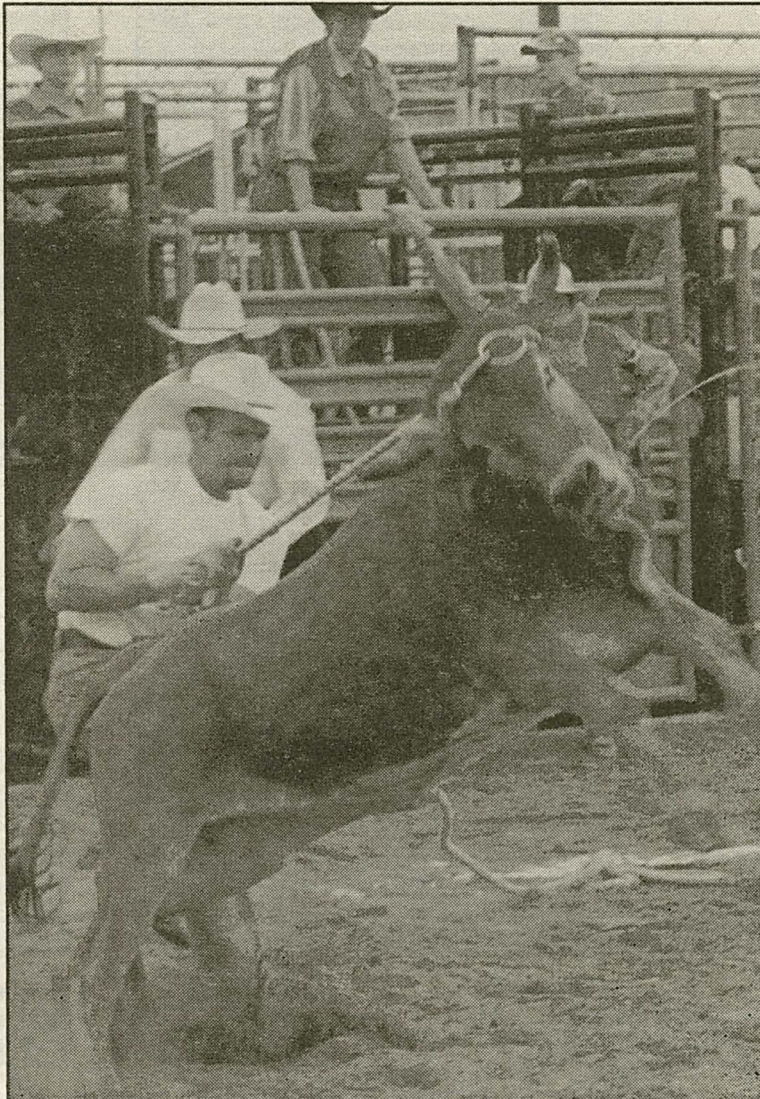
1. survival kit (moisturizer, toiletries, sunscreen, makeup)
2. khakis
3. cargo pants/shorts
4. scarf, bandanna
5. jersey tees (tank tops)
6. sarongs/exotic to solid print
7. one nice 2-piece suit
8. walking/running shoes
9. slip-ons/heels for night out on the town
10. pullover cashmere sweater (black/white)
11. light parka/windbreaker
12. sturdy backpack that goes with wardrobe
13. socks, socks, socks
14. sunglasses
15. handbag that goes with entire wardrobe
16. water
17. black satin slip dress
18. coordinates tops/bottoms, mini skirts, slacks
19. camera
20. swimsuit, swim trunks

When you decide on what to bring, depending on the location, you'll be able to minimize your belonging, so that you don't end up with 50 bags of nonsense that you may not use. Happy traveling!

# onfashion

## YEEEEEEhaaaaaaaa!

When Chaps Are More Than a Fashion Statement



**T**he Golden State Gay Rodeo Association (GSGRA) 1998 Bay Area Regional Gay Rodeo drew hundreds of spectators and participants to the Santa Clara Fairgrounds in San Jose June 6th and 7th.

The competition included standard rodeo events, such as bareback bronco riding, and camp events which nonetheless test the skills of the cowboys (pictured left) and cowgirls.

The GSGRA holds weekly bingo games in San Jose to raise money for this and other events. For information, call the Rodeo Hotline at 415/561-9228 or [mrsgsgra@bigfoot.com](mailto:mrsgsgra@bigfoot.com). Website: [users.aol.com/gsgra/bac98.htm](http://users.aol.com/gsgra/bac98.htm)

## Wendy Bucklew

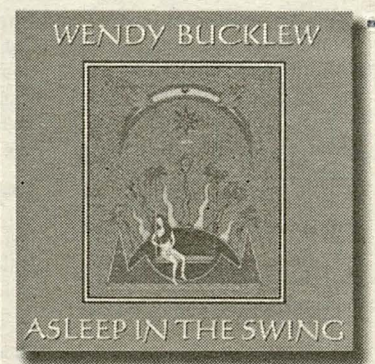
Lesbian Singer Releases Third CD, Tours Country

**A**claimed performer Wendy Bucklew released her third CD, "Asleep in the Swing" June 9th. The 11-song recording reveals her strength as a songwriter and performer.

Bucklew's blues-tinged acoustic style is reminiscent of Bonnie Raitt, especially on tracks like "Jealous Type" and "I Want," which she delivers with a raw, self-assured edge.

Bucklew has been heralded by Indigo Girl Amy Ray. "She possesses many rare qualities of in a world of singer/songwriters," said Ray. "Her music gets better and better, listen after listen."

Bucklew, a California native, started performing in 1988 in Atlanta. She is current in the middle of a national tour which start-



ed in mid-June and will end in the fall. Bucklew hopes to attract a wider audience through provocative performances that, in the words of her publicist, "both rock and cradle" the listener.

Production credits on the CD are first-rate. DeDe Vogt on bass and Jason Mogi on drums provide a solid foundation for

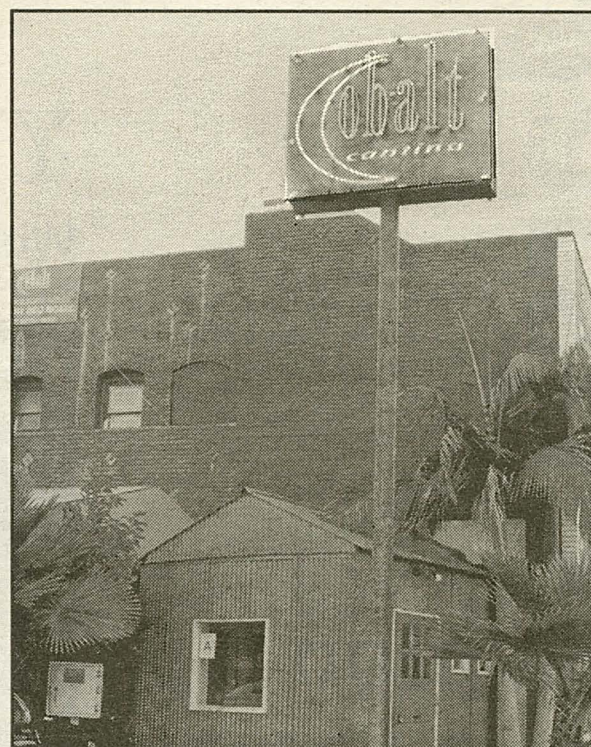
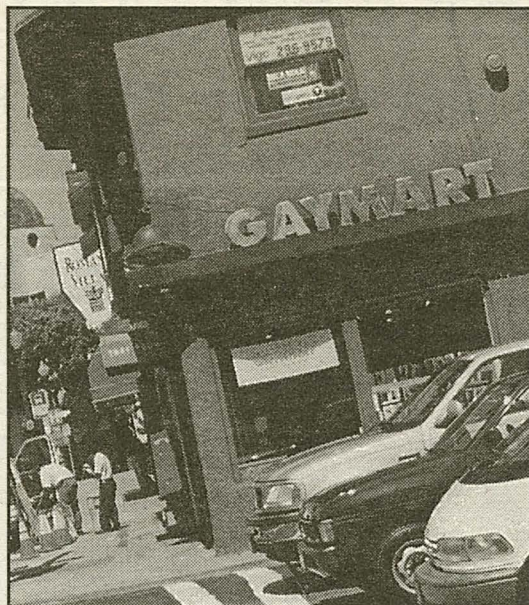
Bucklew's vocals. Bucklew is involved in every aspect of her new CD, the cover of which features her own artwork.

For ordering information, call your local music store or Allegro Entertainment at 800/288-2007. You can also visit their website at [www.allegro-music.com/~allegro/](http://www.allegro-music.com/~allegro/)



# Travel

Two views of San Diego's Hillcrest area, the Castro of Southern California.

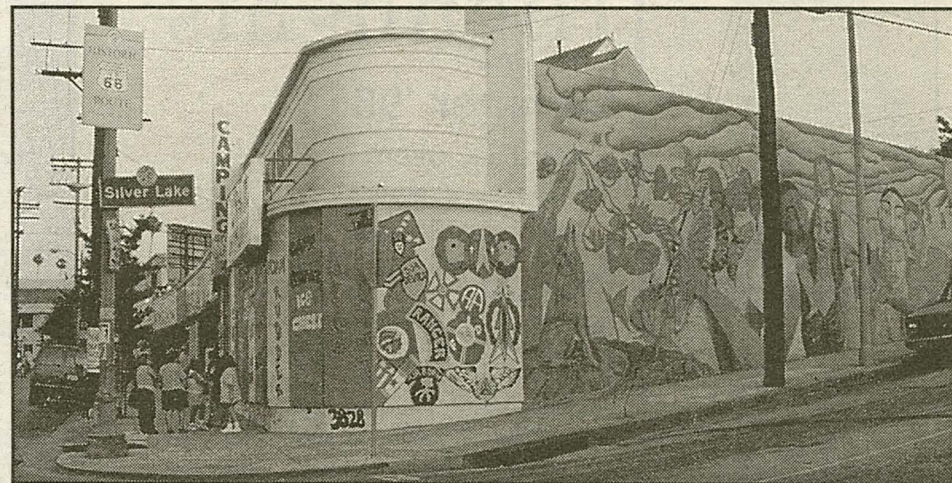


Silver Lake offers a gritty but thoroughly "Los Angeles" selection of entertainment.

Left: The Cobalt Cantina on Sunset

Bottom: a typical Silver Lake street corner mural

Below: the non-descript entrance to The Detour



## San Diego

Gay life centers around Hillcrest, San Diego's version of the Castro. Like its counterpart to the north, there are a number of shops, clubs, and restaurants to wile away a perfect Southern California summer day. The weather in July is temperate with warm, breezy days and cool nights.

San Diego's 24th Annual Pride Festival "Unity Through Diversity" was held July 24-26, although San Diego isn't known as a particularly liberal city. In Hillcrest, however, you are among friends. Several gay B&Bs dot the neighborhood, along with larger hotels. For a more varied selection of accommodations, try Hotel Circle located approximately 10 minutes south by car.

### Clubs

**Alibi**—(University Ave.) Not a gay bar *per se* but by far the coolest place to go to shoot pool. The quintessential dive bar. Smoke with abandon amidst collegians and Gen-X bar dwellers.

**Flicks**—(1017 University Ave., 297-2056) San Diego's version of the Midnight Sun. Friendly bartenders and crowd for happy hour. Cheap drinks on Thursday nights and a cliquey but pretty 20-something crowd. No smoking.

**The Eagle**—(3040 North Park Way, 298-8072) Small leather/neighborhood bar around the corner from Shooterz. We can't really rate the place since I stopped in very late, but the bartender is a fountain of power lifting advice. No smoking.

**Kickers/Hamburger Mary's**—(308 University Ave., 491-0400) Formerly the Arena, now the only country-western bar. Large dance-floor and crowded on the weekends. Line dancing lessons week-nights. Usual Hamburger Mary's fare in the adjacent dining room.

**Pecs**—(2046 University Ave., 296-0889) Friendly neighborhood levi/bear bar down the hill from Hillcrest. Crowd is diverse, and welcoming. Pool tables. Strong drinks. No smoking.

**Shooterz**—(3815 30th Ave., 574-0744) Large pool hall. Dance floor on the weekends. Mixed crowd the night I visited. No smoking.

**Wolfs**—(3404 30th St., 291-3730) The busiest leather bar I visited and one that could easily double as a set for a Colt video. Smoking (among other things) allowed in backroom. Pool table.

### Restaurants

**Prince of Wales** (Hotel Del Coronado, 522-8818) Interesting

menu. Creamy post-modern decor is a little too serious, but service is first-rate, food is interesting, and the martinis come with their own ice bucket (big points for that nicety).

### Beaches

**Blacks Beach.** San Diego's famous predominantly gay nude beach, Blacks Beach is remarkable not only for the shiny, black sand lining the cliff bottom but the sheer number of men who visit (the crowd is 90% men). On the Thursday afternoon that I visited, the parking lot looked like Macy's on White Flower Day.

The beach is located north of San Diego in La Jolla Shores near UC San Diego (it is not marked on roadmaps so look for the Salk Institute). The cliffs above the southern end of the beach serve as the city-run launchpad for handgliders and parasails. Be forewarned that the 150' cliff trail down to the beach is steep and should only be attempted in hiking boots. To the north is Torrey Pines City Beach, which also offers an easier path down to the water. The north end of the beach and the small valley to the south are both well-known cruising areas. And the boys are indeed beautiful.

## Silver Lake

Silver Lake is typically L.A. The first time I drove through the area, I locked my doors and swore I would never return. A year later, I was there almost every day: hidden in the hills are lovely valleys dotted with mansions; hidden at street level are funky cafes and art stores. Silver Lake's namesake reservoir is wrapped in barbed wire, but is still quite pretty at sunset.

Silver Lake was *the* in spot for bands and the art crowd a few years ago. It is still home to the Sunset Junction Festival, named after the intersection of Santa Monica and Sunset where most of the gay bars are located. Take the Folsom St. and Castro St. fairs and mix in a Cinco de Mayo parade and you have Sunset Junction: young Latino couples pushing strollers pass leathermen parading in riot gear and leashes while slumming West Hollywood muscles snack on roast corn—they all converge in late August for the festivities, which typically features the city's soon-to-be hottest underground bands.

Hotels in Silver Lake are better left to the imagination. The large hotels off of Wilshire west

of MacArthur Park, such as the Radisson Wilshire (within walking distance of the ever-hip Wilshire Theater at 3515 Wilshire Blvd.) are affordable—\$120/night—and try *extremely* hard to appear cosmopolitan. As I stomped through the lobby in my leather, not an eyebrow was raised.

### The Bars

**The Gauntlet II**—(4219 Santa Monica Blvd., 669-9472) The leather/uniform bar in Silver Lake. Crowd can be fashion conscious. Pool table, bootshine boys on weekends. Stupid but cute bartenders, one of whom is my ex so tip well. No smoking (sort of).

**The Detour**—(4100 Sunset Blvd., 664-1189) My old hangout for no good reason. Similar in feel to Badlands on the Castro, but smaller and seedier. Leathermen, levis, dancing queens—they all come. Great bartenders. Pool table. No smoking, but a lot of people do with abandon. Tuesday night beer busts were legendary, but have cooled of late.

**Cuffs**—(1941 Hyperion Ave., 660-2649) The only bar I've been to where at least two patrons were having sex when I walked

through the door. Brighter than I remember (it was once lit by a single red lightbulb over the bar), this tiny club is full of the tough and the merely tough-looking. From architects to plumbers, Cuffs draws a strange mix of men. After hours 2 til 4 with a \$3 cover. If you want a grope or perhaps more, this is your bar. If you're smoking, you're probably missing out on something.

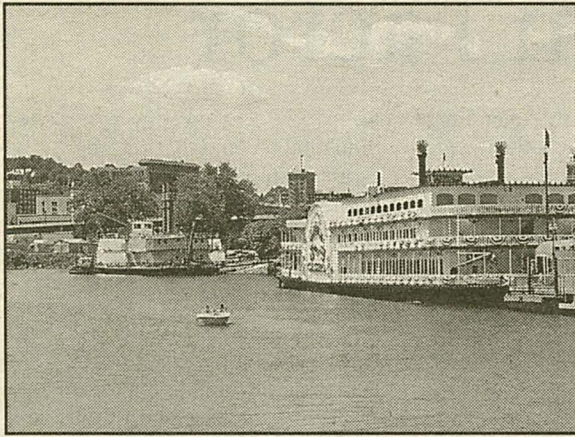
**Le Barcito** (Sunset Blvd.)—The only dance club near Sunset Junction. Formerly Basgo's, now the little sister of Le Bar on Hyperion Ave. Tiny dancefloor. Mostly Latino. Friendly if you make the effort. No smoking.

**Faultline** (4216 Melrose Ave., 660-0889)—Bears, cubs, and whales with a few twinks thrown in for comparison shopping. Smallish indoor bar gives way to a big covered outdoor patio with a firepit (perfect for smokers). Strong drinks. Crowded until 2, after hours til 4.

### Restaurants

**The Cobalt Cantina** (4326 Sunset Blvd., 953-9991)—Nice looking post-modern decor but the food is mediocre (about on a par with TGIFridays). The bar is busy and the staff cordial.





Dubuque, Iowa has a low gay content, but large portions of midwestern charm

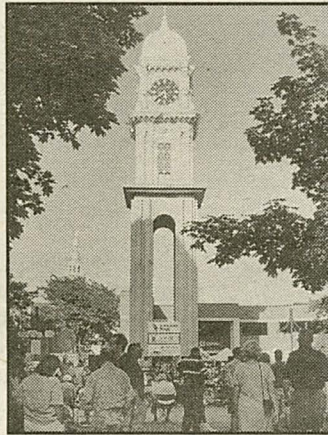
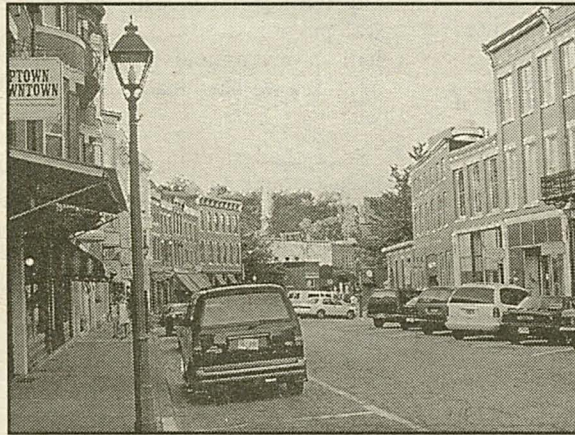
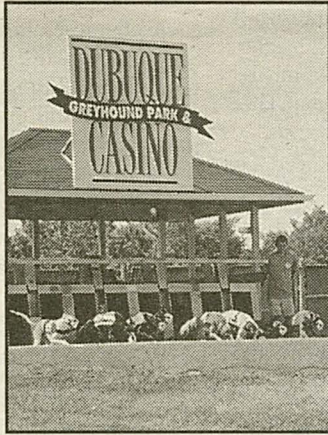
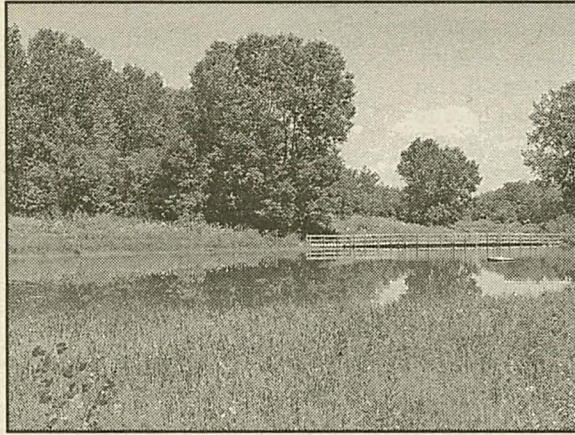
Left: the riverfront paddlewheeler-cum-casino

Middle left: A typical idyll in the Julian Dubuque Memorial Park.

Bottom left: Galena, Illinois offers art galleries and good restaurants

Below: greyhound racing offers fast action on a summer afternoon

Bottom: the clock tower is the center of Dubuque community events



# Dubuque

Wandering the streets of Dubuque is like being caught in the gay version of *The Omega Man*. There simply is no gay life there. None. No rainbow flags, no pink triangles, and no socializing since 1991 when the KKK shut down the town's one gay bar.

But, if you want to escape from the gay Zeitgeist perpetuated in the pages of *OUT* or *The Advocate* for a weekend, Dubuque offers a glimpse into the joys of midwestern living—summer concerts in tree-shaded parks, broad cliffs overlooking the cocoa-colored Mississippi, and genuine friendliness from the locals.

## The Quiet Life

In Dubuque, everyone either works for John Deere, the pig processing plant, or McGraw-Hill. Like Pacific Grove, there seems to be a church on every corner; unlike Pacific Grove, there are usually two other three bars around the corner.

The owner of The Lounge (5th and Locust) told me that Dubuque residents outdrink Germans in beer consumption and that the city was once home to more than 350 bars. The

Lounge is also where I saw the oddest thing: apparently, it's not unusual for drunken, middle-aged straight men to slow dance together and kiss each other on the neck. I suspect it's the corn.

## Staying Put

Community-minded locals have preserved many of Victorian mansions downtown in Trolley Square, home to antique stores and B&Bs. The Redstone Inn (504 Bluff St., 319/582-1894) offers large nicely decorated rooms, although we highly recommend that you ask for one that doesn't face the post office. The Bridal Suite, which we were moved to our last night, was particularly charming. Stay for breakfast at the hotel unless you need a McDonald's fix.

## The Carmel of Dubuque

Twenty minutes into Illinois across the Mississippi River is Galena, a small artsy community along its namesake river. If Dubuque is Monterey, Galena is Carmel. Local and national artists' wares are sold in a 7-block string of boutiques, interspersed with cafes, flower shops, and restaurants. The best of the local eateries according to the locals is El Dorado (219 North

Main St.), a small two-story brick building offering a minimalist atmosphere but exotic fare (the chef no doubt a Patina fan). We sampled grilled antelope on our visit, a four-chile, pureed bean soup, and a starter of smoked scallops on a bed of endive. Yum. Make reservations if you want a place at one of the few tables.

Galena was also the only city where we spotted a rainbow flag, one in a florist shop and the other at a coffee shop. Rumor has it that there is a tightly-knit gay community there, but as with Carmel it chooses to remain invisible.

## Dog Day Afternoon

Gambling is legal in Iowa, not just on the riverboat docked in the ice harbor, but everywhere. The greyhound racetrack in Dubuque just north of downtown offers races every day and a 500-slot casino.

The aforementioned riverboat casino, Diamond Jo's, offers a smaller selection of games, but far more atmosphere. The riverboat, which sits amidst a paddlewheeler museum along the shore, is easily accessible to downtown from the 4th St. overcrossing.



## Ask Sarah The Transgender Perspective

Dear Sarah,

*I have just read your amazing and courageous story in The Paper. When I realized that you are the Sarah Luiz that I have looked up to for a long time, I was shocked and delighted. I have always felt awkward and confused about my outside appearance and felt female inside. I tried so hard to play the roles people wanted "like the boys." I was very sad when I did, and only happy when secretly dressing as girl. I thought I was a freak because of these feelings. Once I even dared tell a girl I was dating, only to be rejected without any form of compassion. Since then I've lived quietly in Monterey waiting for a sign. Then years ago I saw your article in the Enquirer. For the first time in my life I didn't feel alone. Your story, struggle, and stay has helped me on my quest to further explore myself and others live me. Your influence on me has been profound; to this day I still have the articles and other publications that have your story. Most of all I would like to thank you for your inspiration and your courage to come forward with your story. May peace always be with you.*

Sincerely, A Girlfriend from Monterey

Dear Girlfriend,

Thank you for the great letter. You touched my heart and proved once again that I'm on my path, which is worth its weight in gold. For so long I wanted to be a star, but didn't understand about shining. You watch TV and movies. There's so many stars but few shine. Yet it's not just about TV or movies; there's stars everywhere and this I'm just learning. What I'm seeing are more stars off screen than on. The light within is the shine I speak of. Funny, someone the other day was saying, "God I saw a photo of you the other day and you're so attractive." So break that word down. A-tract-tive. People are drawn to you or something about you. I laughed and smiled and they wanted to know what was so funny. I said before I could never take a good photo to save my life. They seemed to question this. But people can only see what's in front of them at the moment. That's why the story (history, each

one of our history) is so important. Then the total picture comes to light and a truer, richer understanding really shines! Basically, I use to rent my body, but really I never wanted to live there. I was always hoping to find a good place to live so people would be impressed. I decided I couldn't move so I remodeled. But I remodeled so much I couldn't find my way home. I cried, laughed, and understand how silly it all was, and how I was the only one playing this game. No one was aware except me because I was so unsure. Since then I've learned how to enjoy my old/new home and realize how to say this is where I live. So the lights are on, the fire burns bright, and I welcome people in to visit! For a short stay or a long one!

Since we are in the month of June and finding pride and expressing it is important. I again thank you, Girlfriend, for that letter.

Girlfriend, my words are full of love for you and I can totally relate to you. I know the pain and the two lives you lead. The older I get the less I live for others and the more important I become. In return, my life take shape. There is no one important enough to die for. Don't let people take your rights away from you! You deserved every chance for happiness. Anyone who loves you wants that for you. There are many jealous people who are gutless. And misery loves company.

Girl, go out there and work it. Strut your stuff and, hold your head up high, and make history!

Recently, I looked in the mirror and saw my mom. Wow, I thought. I'm becoming mature. How could that happen to me? But it does. Time waits for no one. But better my mom looking back at me in the mirror than my father.

P.S. There are a lot of great doctors and groups out there that I can turn you on to.

Write to Sara Luiz c/o The Paper, 787 Laine St. #5, Monterey, CA 93940, wes@mbay.net. It's a rare opportunity indeed.



# The Bathroom Factor

by John Laird

All politics is local

— Former House Speaker Tip O'Neill

Every year at this time as Gay Pride passes by, I review the political and cultural progress gay men and lesbians have made during the past year. By all traditional measures we have really moved ahead in last twelve months. But by one little known indicator of progress for modern civil rights movements, we have really moved onto the political radar screen. That indicator? The issue of bathrooms.

You probably are wondering what bathrooms have to do with political progress. Let me clear that up.

Until the 1960's, the United States, particularly in the South, was guilty of the worst kind of racial discrimination—separate and unequal public accommodations. There were drinking faucets for whites and separate ones for blacks. There were neighborhoods for whites and neighborhoods for blacks. And there were separate bathrooms for whites and blacks.

In those days this issue was not a joking matter. There were many stories of African-American citizens whose major concern about long drives was not being able to find a bathroom they could use at any point during their travel.

When the struggle to change this reached the halls of Congress, what was one of the issues raised? You guessed it. People of different races would have to use the same bathrooms. This was really scary to those citizens who insisted they weren't really racists, just genteel. The Civil Rights Act of 1964 put the issue to rest and the worst fears of some white Americans did not come to pass.

At the same time the struggle was begun for the rights of American farmworkers, mostly of Mexican and Filipino heritage. At the core of the issue was the basic right that farmworkers should have bathrooms on site in the fields—a right that many did not enjoy. It was argued that it was financially not possible for pay for the cost of this basic human dignity. Yet bathrooms were won as a right, and the agricultural industry is still humming along economically.

As the Equal Rights Amendment was pressed in the 1970's, the inequality of women in America was stark. Less than 2% of the members of Congress were women, women in the workforce were paid just over half of what men were, and there were countless laws in which the rights of women were subordinate to the rights of men.

Yet when opponents fought against equal rights laws, could they oppose such obvious injustice? No. Instead, they brought up the issue of bathrooms. Would equal rights mean that young boys and girls would have to share bathrooms? If the ERA passed, there would be women linebackers on professional sports teams, and where will they shower?

When opponents fought against equal rights laws, could they oppose such obvious injustice? No. Instead, they brought up the issue of bathrooms.

Women's rights had arrived as a movement. Bathrooms had become the issue. Yet women have moved ahead in this country in the two decades since this debate, and all the fears about bathrooms—expressed to keep them in their place at the time—failed to materialize.

In the 1980's, the years leading up to the adoption of the Americans with Disabilities Act, people with disabilities pointed out the separate but unequal availability of sidewalks, transit—and yes, bathrooms. The stories were similar to the black civil rights movement. People with disabilities were afraid to go certain places because they would not be able to find a bathroom they could use.

Last year, many of us in Santa Cruz celebrated the achievements of longtime activist Terry Brickley—a champion of people with disabilities. As his daughter addressed the crowd that day, she described attending political meetings with her father. "Couldn't

we ever go to a meeting where they didn't talk about bathrooms?", she asked plaintively. "Not another meeting about bathrooms? Everyone else's father talked about other things."

By the end of the decade, people with disabilities were being taken seriously politically—and you could tell that the Americans for Disabilities Act was about to be adopted. Why? Because bathrooms had become the issue.

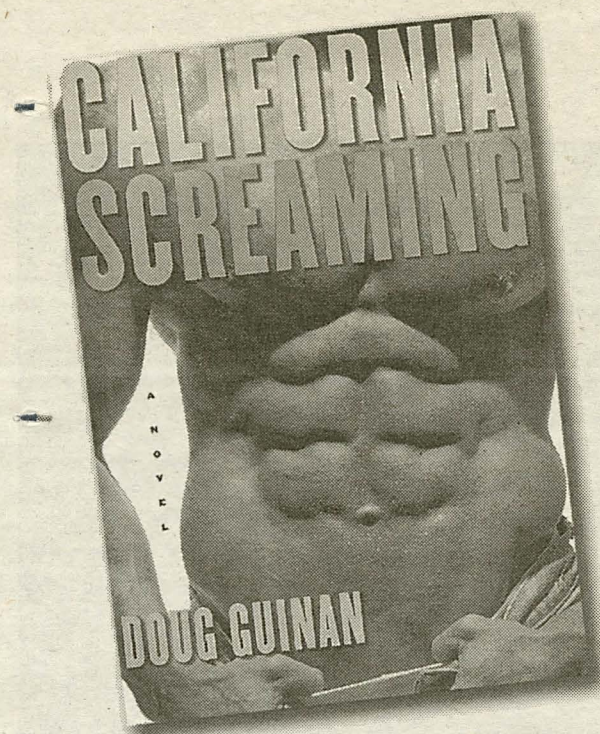
As you read in my last column in this space, a gay couple suffered disparate treatment trying to rent a camping space in the North Coast of Santa Cruz County. They were told they were not a couple and would have to pay almost double the rate any other couple would pay for a similar camping space. Supervisor Mardi Wormhoudt and a number of community activists worked to find a legal remedy for this injustice. A non-discrimination ordinance has now been adopted by the Board of Supervisors, which is part of the political progress I would traditionally hail in my annual report on the advances we have made in the past year.

But as the draft ordinance was being kicked around on its way to adoption, what issue came up? Was it concern about disparate treatment? Was it empathy for people who suffer such kinds of public rejection? Was it a passion for justice? Nope. You guessed it. It was a concern about bathrooms. There were questions raised about just who would be able to use which bathroom if equal rights based on sexual orientation were enacted into law.

So while I usually tell you each Gay Pride where we have had certain electoral victories since we last met, how we have advanced in being characterized in the movies and television, which new novels and histories chronicle us in a positive light—and we have had all of those this last year—I wanted you to know our movement is finally being taken seriously by one of the best indicators those in the corridors of power have to offer.

We threaten bathrooms. We have arrived politically.

John Laird is a former mayor of Santa Cruz and is a regular contributor to The Paper.



The remarkable thing about author Douglas Guinan's first novel "California Screaming" is how close this East Coast native comes to capturing the labeled, logo-strewn world of West Los Angeles. While this makes for light entertainment, it also begins to wear thin as a device, much like an actor who insists on using a bad British accent.

As summer beach reading goes, however, you can probably do no better.

Like its equally fluffy predecessor "Tales from the City," this appears to have been written as a *roman à clef*, which is problematic: most central coast residents wouldn't know David Geffen from David Cassidy.

Guinan's breezy writing style titillates and most of the development, while intentionally contrived, is equally tasty. The two lead characters, one of whom has a massive penis,



work out a symbiotic relationship of sorts and spend the remainder of the book traipsing through several namebrand adventures. The subplot involving a steroid pumping flight attendant is hilarious, as are many of the parodies of modern urban gay culture.

If you didn't get your fill of Melrose Place this year, here's your second chance.

"California Screaming" is published by Simon & Shuster and is available at local bookstores. (ISBN: 0-684-84936-4)

## The Lesbian Alliance

"The Newsletter is a forum for a visible lesbian community which is social, supportive and empowering, encouraging action, freedom of expression and connection for Monterey County."

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## GaySpeak

### Versatop

adj. Versatile, but mostly a top.

### Dead Bug

n. A bottom who just lays there with his legs sticking up in the air.

### Snail Bait

n. An older gay man who attracts significantly younger gay men. A take-off on "jailbait."

Gayspeak welcomed by The Paper.

## Sequel to Before Stonewall

A sequel to the Emmy Award winning documentary *Before Stonewall* has started production. The film will chronicle the history of the gay community following the 1969 Stonewall riots. The production crew will travel the country and to the Gay Games in Amsterdam. "These are the images that have forever changed the way America and the world looks at its gay and lesbian citizens," said executive producer John Scagliotti. The film is scheduled for release in June, 1999 to coincide with the 30th anniversary of the Stonewall riots.



# New Global Plan: Fast Track

With the atmosphere somewhere between the pessimism experienced in Berlin in 1993 (shortly after the release of the Concorde study results) and the "eradication" jubilation in Vancouver in 1996, the 12th World AIDS Conference, like the country in which it was held, felt more "neutral."

Geneva, Switzerland hosted the meeting, held from June 28 through July 3. Close to 15,000 attendees listened to days of plenary sessions and oral presentations which attempted to fulfill the meeting's theme, "Bridging the Gap." In addition, there were 5,000 abstracts displayed as posters.

At this conference, bottled water was free. E-mails could be checked from any of numerous computer stations. And the pharmaceutical display area featured everything from wrapped Swiss chocolates to ice cream to Medline searches to large bags in which to place the pounds of paper one would acquire on a daily basis (article reprints, posters, brochures, etc.).

## Transmission

Although the basics of HIV transmission were laid down years ago—and haven't changed much—there were several interesting reports which merit mention.

A Thai study (actually announced and publicized several months before the Conference) showed that women close to delivery (at 36 weeks), who were given AZT beginning then (instead of at the 14-week cutoff we use in the U.S.) actually were able to decrease transmission to their infants by 50%. This so-called "two-part regimen" costs close to \$50 instead of the longer-in-duration "three-part," which costs around \$800—and with efficacy rates as noted, might have tremendous application for developing nations. It also means that a woman anywhere who presents late in pregnancy should be given antiviral therapy, since we now understand fully that much, although not all, vertical transmission, takes place around the time of delivery.

This Conference also fed the world data on transmission of resistant virus. John Mellors from Pittsburgh noted that in a San Francisco cohort, 16% of those newly infected had virus which was resistant to AZT, 8% to 3TC. A Geneva group reported comparable statistics, and additionally that 10 of 67 newly infected had mutations that are associated with protease resistance.

## Risk Reduction Vigilance

Data such as these serve to underscore the importance of maintaining risk reduction guidelines despite the presence of infection. Reports from London, San Francisco and other locales confirmed that men are having unsafe sex (including receptive anal intercourse with a partner known to be HIV+)—nothing particularly new in this epidemic. Of interest, however, was an American survey of 100 "WSWs" (i.e. women who have sex with women) which showed a majority were not using barriers for oral or vaginal sexual activity. Also, in those who were also having intercourse with men, condoms were rarely used.

## HIV+ Fathers

A positive note for those HIV+ men who wish to become fathers—considered as taboo by some as was the notion of HIV+ women becoming mothers a decade ago—was a report from Germany and Italy. This involved a technique of chemically treating the sperm

so as to minimize the risk of HIV transmission. And so far 167 infants have been born to HIV+ fathers with HIV-negative mothers. None of the infants, or mothers, has become infected.

## Antiviral Therapy

Although a report on all of the antiviral issues at the Conference would be more voluminous than the size of this newsletter (since its inception 11 years ago), the dominant stories were reports of lipodystrophy (so-called "fat redistribution syndrome") and also news about the potential for regimens which might be constructed without the use of protease inhibitors.

## "Buffalo Hump" Studied

Lipodystrophy is generally ascribed to the use of protease inhibitors, but some patients seem to have the same physical findings (apparent loss of fat in the extremities with accumulation in the abdomen or the neck—

Reports from London, San Francisco and other locales confirmed that men are having unsafe sex (including receptive anal intercourse with a partner known to be HIV+)

so-called "buffalo hump") without ever having taken these drugs. Some postulate that the findings may be a consequence of long-term and/or effectively potent viral suppression, whatever the means. An Australian group followed more than 100 patients on two years of PI therapy, and found that a majority of the patients had some self-assessed evidence of change in body habitus. (Women are likely to notice enlargement of the breasts as well.)

There was a statistically significant decline in total body fat mass, and a greater proportion of people had this the second year than in the first, i.e. lipodystrophy's appearance may be progressive. In this group, less than one-fifth had the buffalo hump, and in only 12% was the lipodystrophy termed "severe." The same cohort was studied for the incidences of two other metabolic alterations, elevation of lipids (cholesterol and triglycerides) and elevation of glucose or diabetes. A majority of the cohort had elevation of levels of one or both of these lipids (fats), although the study did not indicate in how many the elevation was marked or severe.

(Elevated lipids generally have few to no consequences in the short run, but in the long term can be associated with coronary artery disease, other vascular problems, pancreatitis, etc.) Almost one-quarter of the group displayed some decrease in the ability to process a load of glucose, so-called "impaired glucose intolerance."

Although this condition is not diabetes, it can be a precursor to such. Diabetes has been associated with protease inhibitor use, as first reported in several dozen patients (out of tens of thousands who are on these drugs) last May.

How will this news affect the use of protease

inhibitors? Of course, not known yet—but remember, that elevated blood lipids or glucose are both conditions which are readily diagnosed and can be treated when necessary. As for the lipodystrophy, an individual decision between patient and provider needs to be made; there are no guidelines for treatment. Some have tried liposuction, but we have yet to see a presentation on a series of patients so treated. Was the removal successful?

Were there complications? Did the fat deposits come back?

## Human Growth Hormone

A small report from New York that generated a considerable amount of interest at the Conference involved the use of human growth hormone (Serostim) to possibly reverse buffalo humps in five patients. As of now, no one recommends discontinuing HAART because of lipodystrophy, but much more has yet to be learned on this evolving issue.

I found myself reflecting on the issue. If someone had told us four years ago that there was a new class of drugs in development whose use would dramatically change the course of the epidemic in this country—that death rates would drop 70% within a year or two of their use, that aids units would become items for history books, that clinical trials of opportunistic infections would often go unfilled because of the virtual disappearance of toxoplasmosis, cryptosporidiosis, wasting syndrome, etc., but that a proportion of people on these drugs would develop an abnormality in body habitus—would we have "taken" them?

The clinical trial which generated the most interest was a major stride for DuPont Merck, the manufacturers of efavirenz.

## New Drug Promising

The clinical trial which generated the most interest was a major stride for DuPont Merck, the manufacturers of efavirenz (in pronouncing, emphasize the "fa"), now in expanded access as Sustiva, a new non-nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitor (NNRTI). The trial, DMP 266-006, involved a comparison of three combination regimens in patients whose average T-cell count had been 345, viral load 4.77 logs, and 85% of whom had never been treated with antivirals.

At 24 weeks, all three groups—efavirenz + indinavir (Crixivan), AZT + 3TC + efavirenz, and AZT + 3TC + indinavir—had viral load suppressions exceeding 2 logs, and rises in CD4+ cells of around 150. However, when the data was examined in terms of a strict analysis of the proportion of patients whose viral load was less than 400 copies/mL, or undetectable, the triple group, AZT +

3TC + efavirenz, looked the best. In a further extraction, this regimen was statistically significantly better (74.7%) in effectively sup-

pressing viral load to undetectable than the AZT + 3TC + indinavir (56.2%). Looking at the ultra-sensitive viral load cutoff of 50 copies/mL, the triple efavirenz-containing regimen once again performed the best. Side effects were not significantly different between the groups, although, as one would expect, there was more rash in those who took efavirenz, and more nausea in those on indinavir. At best, this study demonstrates the promise of non-protease-containing regimens, particularly with drugs that seem as potent as does efavirenz.

However, most experts are not rushing to change patients from PI-containing regimens (Sustiva is not yet FDA-approved, but should be within the next months).

## Questions Ahead

The many questions to be answered in the months ahead include:

- Will these good results hold out in longer duration of the trial?
- Can other NNRTIs (e.g. nevirapine, delavirdine) achieve comparable results when given to people with relatively early disease (T-cells greater than 300) along with a drug as potent as 3TC?
- Will Sustiva's tolerability profile hold up or will rash, dizziness, dysphoria limit its usefulness?

Nevertheless, this is an excellent start for a new drug, and, along with other studies presented at the meetings, leads to a variety of potential options for initial therapy. (Only the first two listed below are possible combinations listed in the federal standardized guidelines):

- 2 NARTIs + PI (the "standard")
- 2 NARTIs + NNRTI (as in the study above)
- 3 NARTIs (as in AZT + 3TC + abacavir)
- 2 PIs (as in ritonavir + saquinavir)
- 2 NARTIs + hydroxyurea\*

Further experience with hydroxyurea was reported at the Conference, including a study which used it as initial therapy and seemed to offer a better drop in viral load.

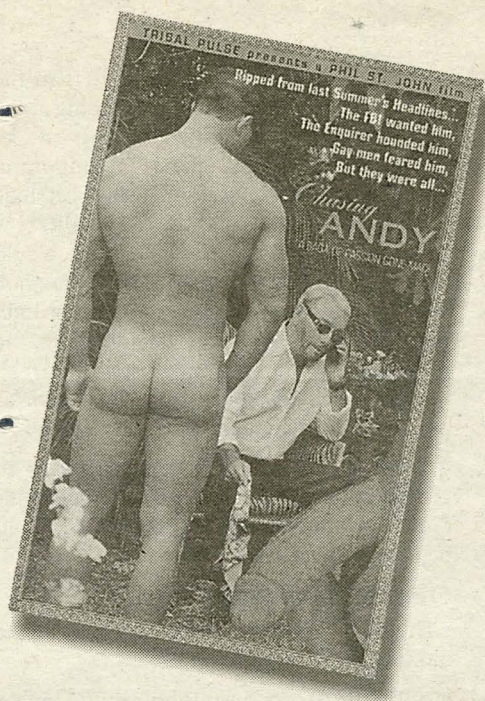
Other miscellaneous items reported at the meeting include:

- Confirmation that nelfinavir dosed at 1250 mg BID (twice a day) looks comparable to the originally approved 750 mg TID (three times a day). Indinavir and Fortovase also look good at BID dosing.
- A promising report on the efficacy and tolerability of the first of the second-generation protease inhibitors, ABT-378, which is used in combination with ritonavir.
- A study demonstrating that patients on the NNRTI nevirapine who became resistant to the drug were all sensitive to all four approved PIs, i.e. no cross-resistance between classes.
- Further corroboration of significant cross-resistance between the four PIs.

For further details, see day-by-day summaries of the Conference highlights at [www.healthcg.com](http://www.healthcg.com), or the Conference site, [www.aids98.ch](http://www.aids98.ch).

Reprinted from the Being Alive Newsletter. Being Alive is an organization of and for people living with HIV/AIDS. For a subscription, call 213/667-3262. [www.mbay.net/~bngalive/](http://www.mbay.net/~bngalive/)





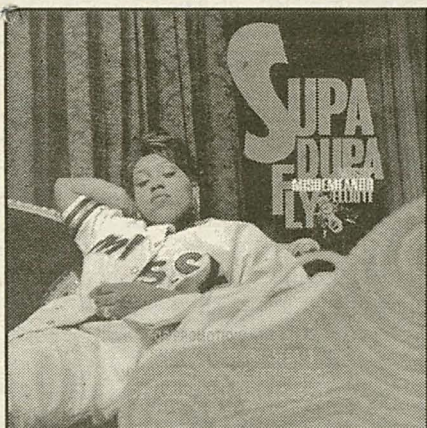
### The Height of Bad Taste

Rocketing to the top of the "what were they thinking" list is *Chasing Andy*, the pornographic version of the Andrew Cunanan serial murder story released by Tribal Pulse Productions.

Little did we know from the FBI reports that the manhunt for Cunanan also involved an orgy in an artist's loft, mudwrestling, and a Santeria ritual (?).

All of this adds up to a "scorching sexual thriller" whose title manages to degrade one of the few decent gay-themed comedies.

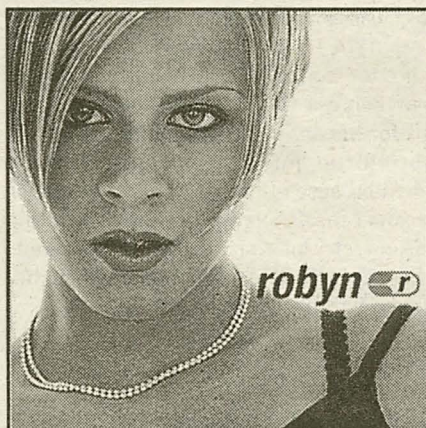
## The Paper's Listening Room



### Missy Misdemeanor Elliott *Supa Dupa Fly* Elektra

The woman partly responsible for the success of platinum groups like Jodeci, Aaliyah, and MC Lyte, it seems like Missy Misdemeanor Elliott was bound for stardom. Her songwriting skills are well-known in the rap/R&B arena and with her debut album "Supa Dupa Fly" she at last takes her rightful place on the forefront of hip-hop.

The album moves from a slow simmer to a roiling boil, with a few of Missy's trademark "Hee haa's" thrown in for good measure. Standout tracks include "Sock It 2 Me" and "The Rain (Supa Dupa Fly)." The video for the latter is one of most inventive pieces of art direction MTV has seen in years—an impressive first step for a small town girl with talent to spare.



### Robyn *Robyn is Here* RCA

Pop sensation Robyn has seduced Top 40 radio listeners at the tender age of 16. Following in the footsteps of Swedish groups ABBA and Roxette, Robyn's voice has an emotional range the belies her age, moving from a soulful wail to a child's playfulness without sounding overtly manufactured (see The Backstreet Boys).

Three songs from the album ("Do You Know," "Show Me Love," and "Do You Really Want Me") have already made it to heavy rotation, and there are at least two more tracks that are destined for the Top 100.

Listen to the a capella "I Wish" and judge for yourself whether Robyn will be around for the millennium.

[www.lifeline.se/robyn](http://www.lifeline.se/robyn)

### May/June 1998 Errata List

*The Paper* attempts to provide its readers with accurate and timely information. Unfortunately, sometimes we blow it.

In the May/June 1998 issue, we mistakenly said that

Jennifer Shockey of the Monterey County AIDS Project was involved in needle exchange; Shockey nor anyone at MCAP is involved in this activity. *The Paper* extends its sincere apologies to Ms. Shockey and MCAP.

The editors also apologize to the Peninsula Professional

Network, which we have been making a plural for the past five years by mistake. By far the most popular organization on the central coast, PPN still manages to mix informative programs and socializing with a sense of graciousness. You have my respect, Del and Donn.

# Personals

## MEN FOR MEN

### GWM

ISO someone who wants to ride along to the Phoenix area at the end of 10/98. Either one way or roundtrip. I'll be gone about 2 wks. N/S. Help with expenses. Send name and phone to Rick R., P.O. Box 207, Marina, CA 93933. Pgr. 644-4770.

### What Do You Say?

You, me...under the stars? Me: 26, playful, discreet, easy-going, gym-toned. Into house, thrift, photo. You: Into same or not, 18-24, slim- to medium-build, artist, raver, bi? You! To hang with. (Respond to #98MAR04)

### Shamanistic Type

Interested in like-minded guys to explore... All is possible. Let's "do it." Sylvester B306, 5315 Carmel Valley Road, Carmel. (Respond to #98MAR03)

### Asian/European-American

Professional man, 5'7", 147#, 31, brn, brn clean cut, cute, witty, ISO honest, handsome, wholesome, masculine kind of guy for casual dating and possible LTR. (Respond to #98MAR01)

### Average, Typical, and Sane

Grad student in Monterey seeks happy & intelligent local guy for fun and friendship! E-mail Daniel864@aol.com or write P.O. Box 492, Pacific Grove, CA 93950.

## WOMEN FOR WOMEN

### GWF Young 40s

Seeking friendship for hiking, dancing, movies, living the good life (no smoke); race not important; spiritual. (Respond to #98JUL01)

### HGF 50

Looking for that someone special who enjoys movies, flea markets, friendship. I'll be looking forward to meeting you. (Respond to #98JUN01)

### GF, 28, Seeks Other Fun Seeking Women...

To spend time with. Let's have coffee, network with others, and enjoy Monterey. Respond to P.O. Box 636, Soledad, CA 93960.

## MEN OR WOMEN

### Bi-WM

Secure, 28, seeks G&Bi M&Fs for friendship & fun. (#98MAR02)

All submissions are strictly confidential and are run for three consecutive issues or as space allows.

### Responding to a Personal Ad

The Paper will not be held liable for what transpires on meetings arranged through this service. If you respond to an ad, you do so at your own risk.

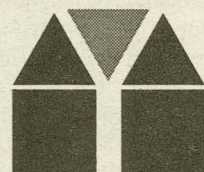
Write the number of the ad you want to respond to (e.g., #030301) on a blank stamped envelope and enclose your response. This is the envelope we will forward.

Put the sealed envelope with your response in another stamped envelope and mail it to The Paper. Responses received with postage due will be thrown away.

Wait for a response then make a date. We suggest meeting at a public place like a coffeshop or restaurant first.

Mail your responses to *The Paper*, 787 Laine St. #5, Monterey, CA 93940

# Roommates



### Roommates Wanted

**The Paper will run your roommate ads for free. Send them to us using the classifieds form on the following page. We don't screen these ads in any way, so please check references carefully.**

### Need a Place

#### Ideal Roommate

F looking for studio or 1 bedroom or house share with Private entry preferred. Partial residence. Please call 831/655-5700 (7/08)

#### Young professional male

relocating to Monterey area in August seeks furnished room for rent through December. Athletic, clean-cut non-smoker with references available. Scott 561/995-6919 or e-mail: sjnconsult@aol.com (7/98)

### Have a Place

#### Watsonville

Apt in Watsonville for rent now. Pay rent of \$200.00 per month or so, depends on income. Downtown, near all—Cabrillo College, stores, bus station. Clean, never smoked in apt, 1 bedroom, kitchen, bath, living room. Quiet. E-mail for info. No pets. BobM0321@aol.com (7/98)

#### Seaside

For rent June 1. Big studio apt. in house. Nice area. Incl. utilities, private entrance. \$450/mo. First and last. References. Great for TV/T.G. No drugs, no smokers, no pets. 408/899-5887.

#### Aromas

#### %5 Discount to Readers of *The Paper*

Charming, poolside cottage near downtown Aromas. Country setting feature landscaping and views. 1 bedroom, 1 bath with sunny office or second bedroom. Full laundry and adjacent orchard on three acres of land. \$860/mo plus util. Also available is a house share in a 5-bedroom house on the same property. Call Barry at 726-2828.

### Prunedale

Furnished room for rent. Located in quiet gated Prunedale community with views. Looking for mature, responsible and drug-free person who can do house-keeping for credit to apply towards rent. \$450.00 includes utilities. All interested persons call 408/633-3874.

### Prunedale

Furnished extra large room for rent. Located in quiet gated Prunedale community with views. Looking for mature, responsible and drug-free person. \$450.00 includes utilities. All interested persons call 408/633-3874.

### Marina

Male roommate to share 2 bdr. Marina apt. Good location. \$375 includes all utilities. Smoke OK. Call Tony 884-9166

### North Salinas

Room for rent in a two bedroom mobile home. \$350 a month, \$200 deposit. Some utilities. Kitchen priv. Must be financially responsible. Call Abe at 408/444-7154. Morning or evenings.

### North Salinas

Room for rent in a 2bdrm/bath apt. \$350 a month, \$150 deposit, some utilities. Must be financially responsible. Call Greg at 408/443-0442.

### New Monterey

Room in great 3bdrm house. \$450 a month, 1/3 utilities and deposit. Excellent deck & view. Must be reliable and responsible. Call Jorge or Michael. 408/648-0125.



## Services

### Gay Men and Women Therapy Group

Psychotherapy group for gay men and women, focusing on coming out, becoming empowered, wanting healthy relationships with self and others. Weekly, fee charged. Call 648-4405.

### Gays and Lesbians!

Look the best! Private sessions now available to learn how to look like a million bucks. Have the makeover you have always wanted yet never knew where to go. Call now for a confidential interview. 408/655-5357.

### Gay Artists and Writers Kollektive

is looking for another community group to share the cost of a booth (\$75) in S.E. Gay Day in June. We are comedy writers, rock music junkies, etc. We sponsor writers workshops. S.A.S.E. to John Sugar, 901 Stanyan St., San Francisco, CA 94117 or call 415/731-2424.

### Jones Janitorial Service

Residential and commercial cleaning. 646-4691.

## Nightclubs & Bars

### After Dark

Dancing Thurs thru Sun, patio, full bar. Open M-F, 4:30 to 2, Sat-Sun, 8-2. 214 Lighthouse Ave., New Monterey (near the Presidio, cross street Reeside) 373-7828.

### Blue Lagoon

Dancing in the heart of Santa Cruz. Dancing on two floors, full bar, pool tables, mixed straight/gay crowd. 923 Pacific Avenue, Santa Cruz, 423-7117.

### Dakota

The newest bar on the Central Coast. Dancing 7 nights a week. Full bar, appetizers. 1209 Pacific St. in downtown Santa Cruz.

### Franco's Norma Jean

Dancing, restaurant, full bar. Open Sats. 10639 Merritt St., Castroville (near the Wells Fargo Bank). 633-2090.

### Lighthouse Bar and Grill

Newly remodeled, pool table, hot snacks, beer bust on Sundays from 2 p.m. 281 Lighthouse Ave. in Monterey. 373-4488. Open Mon-Tues from 5 to 2, Wed-Sun from 2 to 2.

## Community Groups

### ACLU for Monterey County

373-4491 or 373-0823

### Alcoholics Anonymous (AA)

Central Office. 373-3713 or 424-9874

### All In the Family

Cal State University Monterey Bay's gay and lesbian association. www.monterey.edu/students/cocciaacorinea/world/lgba.html

## BAYMEC

Lesbian & gay political organization. 899-2263.

### Rice Girls (Gay Asian Club)

A social group for Asian and Pacific Islanders. Call Wes Kashiwagi at 831/655-3756 (wes@mbay.net)

### Gay Teen Alliance

For lesbian, gay, bisexual, and questioning youth under age 25. Call 393-3457 in Monterey; 772-8202 in Salinas. Or visit www.gtamonterey.org

### Grande Cypress Empire

A non-profit fundraising organization benefiting local gay and AIDS agencies. 899-1350.

### Integrity

Gay Episcopalian group. 484-2326.

### Lesbian Alliance

A local group offering a variety of social activities. Call 648-4338 for more information.

### Metropolitan Community Church

Services held Sunday, 10 a.m. at Mariposa Hall, 801 Lighthouse Ave in Monterey. In Santa Cruz, Grace United Methodist Church, 1024 Soquel Ave. at 5 p.m. Call Rev. Jean Hart at 831/459-8442. P.O. Box 1764, Santa Cruz, CA 95060. lrmcc@geocities.com

### Monterey Bay Bears

Social group open to all in Monterey-Salinas area. Meetings are the 2nd Friday of the month. P.O. Box 3264, Monterey, CA 93942. 392-1482 or 646-0846, MontereyBayBears@usa.net

### Monterey's Gay Website

Providing news, resources, businesses, links, and more. Named favorite website in Monterey County for 1997 by the Coast Weekly. www.mbay.net/~wes/monterey

### Monterey PFLAG

Parent's and Friends of Lesbians and Gays. Meets the 4th Tuesday of every month in Carmel. Call (408) 655-FLAG for info on meetings and speakers. Santa Cruz Chapter 662-4780.

### The Paper

Monterey County's gay newspaper. Call Wes Kashiwagi at 655-3756, or write to 787 Laine St. #5, Monterey, 93940. E-mail wes@mbay.net www.mbay.net/~wes/monterey

### Peninsula Professional Network

Join the largest gay organization on the Central Coast for informative presentations and refreshments at the homes of other members. Monthly newsletter and social/educational evenings with speakers for gays, lesbians, bisexuals, and transgenders. Second Wednesday of every month. Call Del or Donn at 659-2446 for exact time and location.

### Pride of Monterey County

Responsible for planning and organizing

Monterey's annual gay pride festival and parade. 655-2045. P.O. Box 2684, Monterey, CA 93942.

### Salud Para La Gente

Comprehensive health services and education in Spanish and English for the Pajaro Valley. Call 763-3413 (voicemail).

### Santa Cruz Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender Community Center

1328 Commerce Lane in Santa Cruz. A great resource for all of your queer needs and a nice way to meet some new faces. Publisher of "The Manifesto" monthly newspaper. Call 425-LGBC.

## Women's Resources

### WomenCARE

Women's cancer advocacy, resources and education, 457-CARE

### Gay Men and Women Therapy Group

Psychotherapy group for gay men and women, focusing on coming out, becoming empowered, wanting healthy relationships with self and others. Weekly, fee charged. Call 648-4405.

### Monterey Rape Crisis Center

Rape Crisis Line, 375-4357; North County Crisis line, 633-5900; Office, 373-3955.

## Bisexual Resources

### Bisexual Support Group

Guided rap and discussion group. At the Billy DeFrank Center (see listing under "Community"), 293-2429

### Women's Bisexual Network

Of Santa Cruz and the Greater Monterey Bay Area 427-4556.

## Men's Resources

### Man to Man

Offering a variety of sex positive programs and events. Sponsor of Hot & Healthy safer sex parties, gay male outreach and education. Contact Craig Wenzl at 772-8202.

### Gay Men's Health Coalition

Providing information on local HIV issues, references. 649-2555.

## HIV/AIDS Resources

### Monterey County AIDS Project

Services for those with HIV/AIDS. Volunteers always welcome. 780 Hamilton, Seaside, 394-4747; and 12 E. Gabilan St., Salinas, 772-8200. To volunteer call 394-4747.

### John XXIII AIDS Ministry

Housing and other services for HIV+ folks. Michael Center, 540 Lighthouse Ave., Monterey, 655-1737

### Monterey County Health Dept.

HIV testing and other services. 755-4512.

### Monterey Needle Exchange

Protect yourself from HIV/hepatitis infection. Housecalls throughout Monterey County. 759-1794. Confidential, discrete, free.

### Red Ribbon Benefit Shop

Proceeds go to benefit locals with HIV/AIDS. 485 Lighthouse Ave., Monterey. To donate or for more information, 647-7100.

### Peninsula HIV+ Support Group

For men and women. Group meets every 2nd and 4th Tuesday at 7 p.m. at the Monterey County AIDS Project's office in Seaside, 780 Hamilton. 394-4747.

### Salinas HIV+ Support Group

Group meets twice a month in Salinas. Call the Monterey County AIDS Project's Salinas office for more information at 772-8200.

### Family, Friends, & Partners

Meets the 1st & 3rd Suns. of the month in Salinas at 7 p.m. Tom Sanguino for location and more info 655-4080.

### Pet Support Program

MCAP pet-loss grief counseling & animal-assisted therapy for MCAP clients and their companion animals. Terri Austin at 649-6283.

# Classifieds/Personals Form

## ☐ Classified Ad

## ☐ Community Resource

List Under: \_\_\_\_\_

## ☐ Personal Ad (choose a category below)

- |   |                                       |
|---|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Women Seeking Women  | <input type="checkbox"/> Transgender  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Men Seeking Men  | <input type="checkbox"/> Transvestite |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bisexual   | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Alternative Lifestyles<br>(Men Seeking Women, Women Seeking Men) |                                       |

## ☐ Resource Listing (choose a category from this page)

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Message: \_\_\_\_\_

The Paper cannot process your ad without the following information:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Street \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

### For Personal Ads:

I certify that I am 18 years of age or older:

X \_\_\_\_\_

Signature required)

### For Classified Ads:

I certify that the above information is accurate and complete:

X \_\_\_\_\_

Signature required)

LEGAL STUFF Guidelines: Include any information about yourself that you would like to share, but please note that *The Paper* reserves the right to edit for graphic language or reject any ad deemed offensive or negative. *The Paper* will only consider ads submitted by persons 18 years of age or older. No ads seeking persons under age 18 will be published. Disclaimer: *The Paper* holds or assumes no responsibility for the content of personal ads, nor to any reply received by the advertiser. The advertiser assumes full and total liability for the content of the ad and all replies received. The advertiser agrees that *The Paper* and its employees are to be indemnified of any liabilities, damages resulting from the publication, or any costs or expenses (including attorney's fees).

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Clip & mail this fabulous form to *The Paper* at  
787 Laine St. #5, Monterey, CA 93940

## Transgender Resources

### Transending/Sex-Gender

Let's talk/post. Sarah Luiz, 831/394-5312.

### Transgender Support Group

462-3663

## Transvestite Resources

### Safe Cross Dressing In Carmel

At least 3% of the heterosexual male population has the need to express their feminine persona. Thanks to bold people like Ed Wood, "Tootsie," Dennis Rodman, and many others,

it is becoming more socially acceptable. For support, friendship and safe, confidential, crossdressing experience in the Carmel area call Society for the Second Self: 626-8008

### Safe Place

I offer a safe place to dress in nice area of Seaside. I have a large stock of clothing, some for sale, some free in return for conversation. Absolutely no drugs and nothing illegal. I'm kind, considerate, discreet. Please you be too. You'll enjoy the experience. 899-5887.

Send information on your social group or non-profit community organization using the form above.

The Paper is a publication for and by Monterey County's gay and transgender community. Local news is gathered on the backs of ATM receipts, cocktail napkins, and Wes' dwindling supply of brain cells. Layout and writing are done in Quark Xpress 3.32 on a PowerMac 5215CD, although we are still planning a hardware upgrade after the next price reduction. Hardcopy submissions are

OCR-ed via TextBridge or keyed in via our typesetter's neatly trimmed 100 wpm fingers. State and national news is gathered from the Internet, press releases, and AOL chatroom flirtations. Photos are taken with our trusty Canon Rebel G, developed at Long's, and scanned using an Epson-1000C at 175 dpi, line art at 1200 dpi. Bitmaps are beautified in Adobe Photoshop and vector graphics are created in Adobe Illustrator. Files are transferred via Zip disk for output to film at 1200 dpi by *The Herald* on their Agfa imagesetter, then put on newsprint on their full web press. On the electronic

front, the award-winning Monterey Gay Website is updated monthly and FTPed to Monterey Bay Internet's server. MBAY remains our ISP of choice partially because they also host (free of charge) the Being Alive website (www.mbay.net/~bngalive/) which *The Paper* helps maintain. To blow off steam, the layout team puffs Winston's and travels to exotic lands like Modesto where a full set of teeth is as highly prized as a double-wide. Reporting and angry commentary are done listening to Missy Misdemeanor Elliott's *Supa Dupa Fly*, Shania Twain's *The Woman in Me*, and the ABBA of the 90s Robyn's *Robyn is Here* (you go, Swedish girlfriend). Editing is done belly down on the floor of Wes' apartment since that's where all of his note are piled. Distribution is done from the back of Wes' "Jungle Red" Eclipse. This issue is dedicated to Dr. Ellison and the nurses at the E.R. of Community Hospital, who help *The Paper's* staff pass its recent kidney stone ordeal with morphine and kind words.

# The Paper Subscriptions

## 1 year (six issues) for \$12

The Paper is delivered in a fashionably plain white envelope.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

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City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address (optional) \_\_\_\_\_

Send a check made payable to *The Paper* with this form to *The Paper*, 787 Laine St. #5, Monterey, CA, 93940.

Subscription rates apply only to mailing addresses within the continental United States. The Paper cannot fulfill your subscription without the above information. It will be kept strictly confidential. Subscription requests not accompanied by payment will be thrown away.





# Sleep Free 'til 1999!



## Simmons Mattress Super Store

**6 MONTHS  
NO  
INTEREST  
NO  
PAYMENT  
O.A.C.**

**SUPER STORE EXCLUSIVE**



**\$69**

Twin ea. pc.

**Full**

ea. pc.

**\$99**

**SUPER STORE EXCLUSIVE**



**\$99**

Twin ea. pc.

**Full**

ea. pc.

**\$169**

**SUPER STORE EXCLUSIVE**



**\$149**

Twin ea. pc.

**Full**

ea. pc.

**Queen Set**

**\$199**

**King Set**

**\$499**

**\$699**

**SUPER STORE EXCLUSIVE**

**BackCare**

**\$399**

Queen Set

**Twin Set**

**\$299**

**Full Set**

**\$349**

**King Set**

**\$599**

- Zoned Coil System
- Firm Support
- 10 Yr. Warranty

**SUPER STORE EXCLUSIVE**

**BackCare**

**\$549**

Queen Set

**Twin Set**

**\$449**

**Full Set**

**\$549**

**King Set**

**\$849**

- Zoned Coil System
- Convoluted Comfort Top
- 10 Yr. Warranty

**SUPER STORE EXCLUSIVE**

**BackCare**

**\$749**

Queen Set

**Twin Set**

**\$699**

**Full Set**

**\$749**

**King Set**

**\$1099**

- NFSA Recommended
- Anatomic Support Foam
- Convoluted Comfort Top
- 10 Yr. Warranty

**SUPER STORE EXCLUSIVE**

**Beautyrest**

**\$499**

Queen Set

**Twin Set**

**\$399**

**Full Set**

**\$449**

**King Set**

**\$799**

- Individual Pocketed Coils
- Extra Firm Edge Coils
- 10 Yr. Warranty

**SUPER STORE EXCLUSIVE**

**Beautyrest**

**\$599**

Choice of Comfort Queen Set

**Twin Set**

**\$449**

**Full Set**

**\$549**

**King Set**

**\$899**

- Individual Pocketed Coils
- Convoluted Foam Comfort Top
- 10 Yr. Warranty

**SUPER STORE EXCLUSIVE**

**Beautyrest**

**\$799**

World Class Queen Set

**Twin Set**

**\$699**

**Full Set**

**\$749**

**King Set**

**\$1099**

- Premium Coil System
- Ultra Premium Fiber Top
- Double Row Edge Support
- 10 Yr. Warranty

**SUPER STORE EXCLUSIVE**

**Connoisseur**

**\$1599**

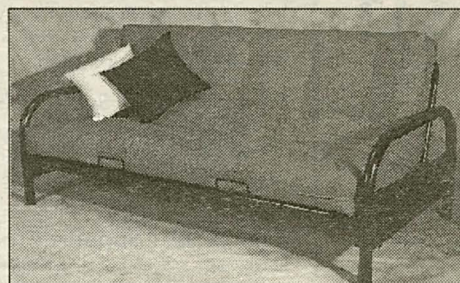
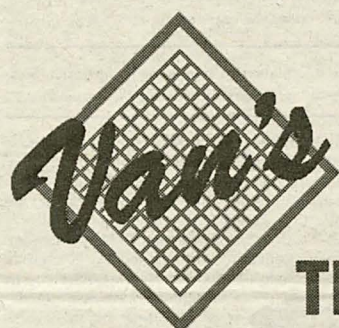
Queen Set

**King Set**

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